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THE TIMES

More détente not less: World view by Arrigo Levi, page 10

Mr Carter cuts off Iranian oil imports

: 75 ambassadors in Tehran were asked by n yesterday to back its demand for the Shah's ortation from America. As the American bassy occupation continued for its eighth ; President Carter hit back by halting all oil orts from Iran.

'ehran asks envoys to back anti-US line

· Robert Fisk
an, Nov 12

n's Revolutionary Council e only effective ruler of untry after the resigna- the interim Government reek — today crushed any er hope that diplomatic vention would secure the ise of the 100 hostages held he American Embassy in an.

ubassadors of the 75 nations esented in Iran were called he Foreign Ministry in an this morning to hear a attack on the United : from Mr Abolhussan Sadr, the newly appointed gn Minister. He then asked liplomats to support Iran's ind for the former Shah's tation from the United .

t nations will find it im- ole to comply with this est, which marked the end urrent diplomatic efforts to ate between the Americans Ayatollah Khomeini's rul- clergy.

: Pope, the nine countries he European Community, the Palestine Liberation nization have all tried — failed — to intervene suc- ully on behalf of the icans held prisoner inside ig walled compound just aleghani Avenue.

e hostages completed their h day of captivity today, ently unaware of the s to free them but well to hear the chanting s outside the Embassy

day long students, armed ic Guards and several nd members of Muslim izations shouted slogans have become familiar to oint of monotony over the week. The most popular is "Down with the Carter — Down with the Shah", gan generally taken up for r seven minutes and then changed with shouts of nkee go home".

the scene outside the bassy has a theatrical qual- the impression is perhaps air one. The crowds are itegically placed to catch television cameras, and eign journalists are allowed ideed, encouraged— to ap- oach the Embassy and stare through the black, wrought-iron gates of the compound.

The hostages, locked in the main Embassy buildings—, the men with their hands tied—cannot be seen, although students have spray-painted anti-American slogans on the roof of the reception block.

The students inside the compound, who come from Tehran's four universities, announced today that they were starting a five-day hunger strike as part of their demand for the Shah's deportation.

Their fast has been given wide publicity in the Iranian press. So has the long statement which Mr Bani-Sadr made yesterday on the reasons for Iran's insistence that the Shah stand trial in Tehran.

Mr Bani-Sadr recalled that the Western powers had put Nazi war criminals on trial at Nuremberg at the end of the war and described the Shah, whom the Americans were "protecting" as "the biggest criminal in the world".

The latest mediation offer came today from General Zia ul-Haq of Pakistan, who appealed for the release of the 100 hostages, 60 of whom are American citizens.

Patrick Brogan writes from Washington: President Carter announced today that he had decided to suspend oil imports from Iran. The move is designed partly to forestall any embargo on Iranian oil exports to the United States, and partly to put pressure on the Iranians to release the Embassy hostages.

In a special television address, the President said he wanted to underline America's resolve not to bow to economic pressures from anywhere. Accordingly, he said, "I am ordering that we discontinue purchasing of any oil from Iran".

The United States imports between 300,000 and 400,000 barrels of crude oil a day direct from Iran, about 3 per cent of its consumption. A roughly equal quantity of Iranian oil reaches America from other countries, where it is refined.

Shah's health, and Iranian students accuse Mr Carter, page 8.

Carrington deadline for Rhodesia conference

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, gave a blunt warning to the Rhodesian constitutional conference in London last night that "there must be agreement in the next day or two".

Although he stopped short of issuing an ultimatum, the clear implication of his deadline was that if the Patriotic Front guerrilla alliance cannot agree on the proposed interim proposals before elections in Zimbabwe Rhodesia, Britain will make a separate deal with Bishop Muzorewa, the Prime Minister.

Legislation is already going through the House of Commons to appoint a British governor.

The warning given by Lord Carrington was greeted by some members of Mr Robert Mugabe's wing of the Patriotic Front with sneering laughter according to some observers.

Mr Mugabe himself had just returned from a weekend visit to the Organization of African Unity headquarters in Addis Ababa and is known to take a much harder line than his colleague, Mr Joshua Nkomo, who suggested yesterday that the outstanding difficulties could better be resolved in committee.

An attempt will be made to try this today at the level of officials and legal advisors, but Lord Carrington is still insisting that agreement must be reached in a day or two.

Mr Nkomo replied that he would be glad to see agreement in two hours, if that were possible, but the decisions taken must be right for Zimbabwe. Mr Mugabe did not speak.

Behind the latest rift in the conference, which is now entering its tenth week, lies the Patriotic Front's continuing mistrust of British motives.

In a further effort to allay their doubts, Lord Carrington again emphasized yesterday the evenhandedness of Britain's proposals for the interim period in Rhodesia.

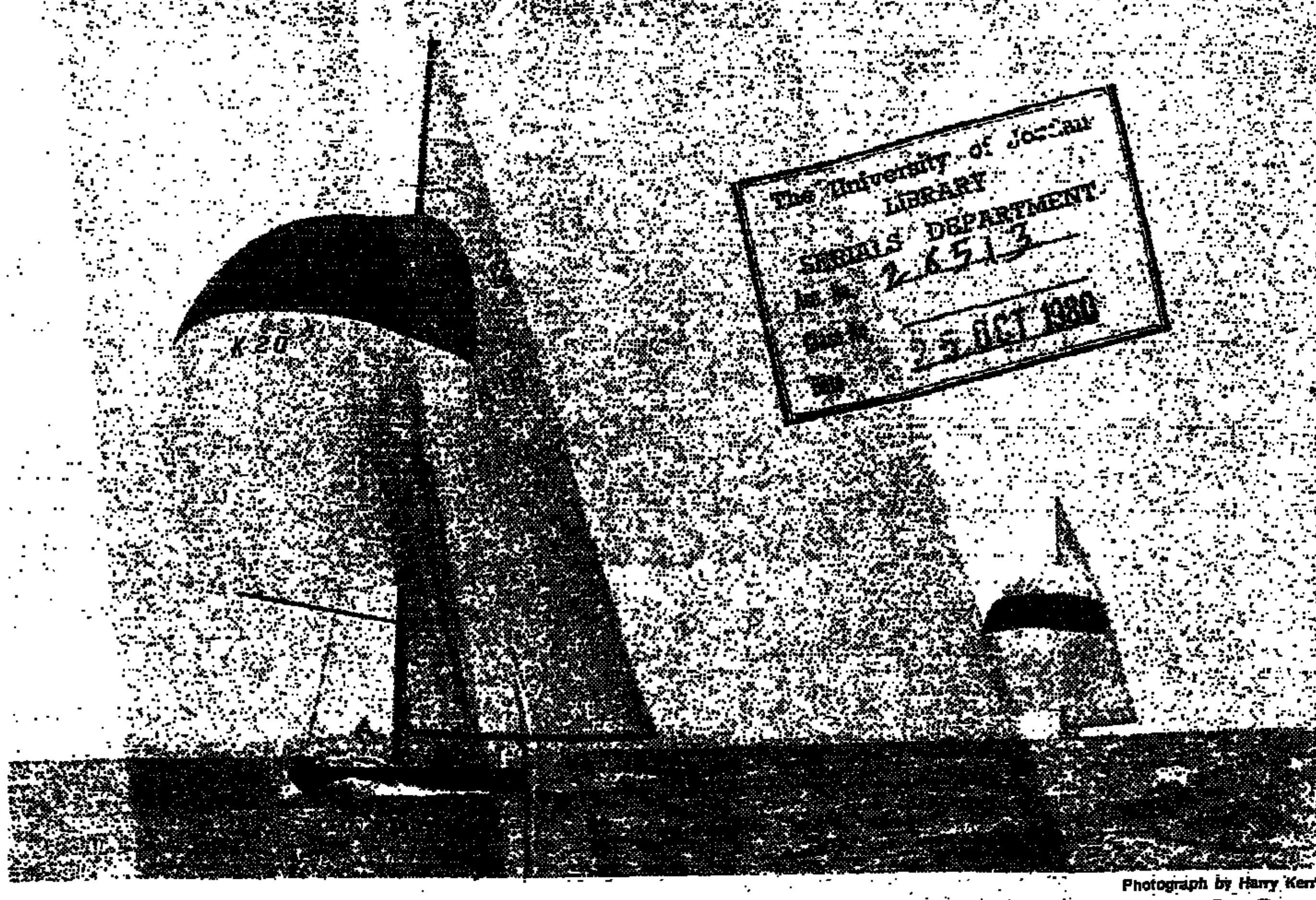
In the British judgment further delay in the conference puts the whole enterprise of a negotiated settlement at risk. The fear is that Bishop Muzorewa will lose the support which he needs in Rhodesia

Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent, writes from Westminster: Labour MPs last night were fighting a lengthy but unfruitful rearguard action intended to ensure that there should be no Rhodesia settlement without agreement by all parties represented at the constitutional conference.

As the committee stage of the Southern Rhodesia Bill opened with the Labour front bench promise that all stages in the Commons would be completed before the end of the sitting, Mr Alexander Lyon, Labour MP for York, voiced the Opposition's suspicions that the Government was heading for a settlement that would exclude the Patriotic Front.

The Bill makes provision for an independence constitution by Order in Council, to come into force when Southern Rhodesia has gained independence as the Republic of Zimbabwe. It also provides for elections.

Patriotic Front increases forces, page 8



Photograph by Harry Kerr

Lionheart, the British entry for the America's Cup next year, leading Constellation, the back-up yacht, in trials on the Solent. (Fund short of target, page 4.)

Grim economic warning from Mrs Thatcher

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

In an attempt to stiffen resolve in the City and among the nation's business chiefs, Mrs Thatcher last night declared that her Government would "take whatever action is necessary to contain the growth of the money supply".

Giving a speech at the Lord Mayor's banquet at Guildhall, shortly before Thursday's official economic forecasts the Prime Minister by her declaration of unflinching will came close to indirect confirmation that Minimum Lending Rate and other interest and mortgage rates will have to rise.

She had noted in passing that the power of governments to direct events was less than some politicians liked to think. But regarding the Government's commitment to combat inflation through monetarism there could be no doubts.

"The aim is to restore sound money—a situation where the currency of the realm can be a store of value as well as a means of exchange.

"It is a Herculean task; but we are not faint-hearted pilgrims. We will not be deflected by a stony path. Although they were for one month only, the recent bank lending figures were a serious disappointment. We shall take whatever action is necessary to contain the growth of the money supply. This Government, unlike so many of its predecessors, will face up to economic realities."

Mrs Thatcher was referring to October's substantial increase in bank lending, which probably indicates that the money supply growth targets of between 7 and 11 per cent are being exceeded despite the Government's best endeavours.

Mrs Thatcher, in one of the gloomiest statements she has made since taking office last May, described the difficulties facing Britain as "greater, perhaps, than any faced in time of peace by Disraeli or Churchill".

She continued: "The world is wracked by economic confusion and inflation. There is the prospect of a growing energy crisis. The countries of the Third World aspire, legitimately, to improve their lot.

"New military technologies complicate the calculations of security. New civil technologies, such as the microprocessor, complicate the calculations of industrial management. New financial techniques complicate the calculations of economic and money management."

Mrs Thatcher said that with her main policies launched—she listed spending cuts, taxes, and the abolition of exchange control—it was clear that "there are many decisions ahead that will be hard for us to take".

Mrs Thatcher said that the search for security and prosperity would continue to be guiding principles for British foreign policy, and she spoke of three issues requiring decision this year: Europe, Rhodesia, and modernizing Nato's weapons.

On the EEC budget Mrs Thatcher had the strongest if unspecific words. Britain could not "go on any longer being Europe's most bountiful benefactor", through its excess of contributions over receipts; the EEC policies had to change and the change "put in hand soon". She said that Britain's EEC partners understood "that what is at question in the period ahead is not only a British interest but the future conduct of the Community itself".

The Prime Minister also exhorted her audience and, beyond them, leaders in business and industry to help recreate the spirit of enterprise.

Jenkins warning on Dublin tactics, page 8; MLR set to rise, page 23.

Vatican and Henry VIII bridge their official rift

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Pope's official representative in London is being given diplomatic rights, including permanent diplomatic immunity, as the first step towards establishing full diplomatic relations between the Court of St James's and the Holy See.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office said yesterday that immunity is about to be granted, and that the Apostolic Delegate to Britain, Archbishop Bruno Heim, is now regarded as a recognized diplomatic agent.

The British Government had previously considered that the historic breach between Henry VIII and the Papacy had put insuperable constitutional obstacles in the way of formal relations with the Vatican. There is considerable nervousness in government circles on the subject, but the unprecedented popularity of Pope John Paul II has changed the climate.

Leaders of the Government, including the Prime Minister herself, the Foreign Secretary and the Lord Chancellor, are understood to favour a gradual normalization of relations, leading to an exchange of ambassadors.

The Holy See's representative in London would be called a pro-nuncio, rather than the more traditional nuncio, to avoid difficulties over precedence. Nuncios are accorded the status of doyen of the diplomatic corps, while a pro-nuncio has no standing beyond ambassadorial rank.

Neither side has wished to take the initiative in announcing the new arrangement, preferring it to become known on the political or ecclesiastical "grapevine", and the Government is understandably anxious not to upset its new low-key exploratory talks with all sides in Northern Ireland.

The Foreign Office publicly puts a minimal interpretation on it, and is not keen for significance to be read into it. But it is clearly a decision to which great symbolic meaning would be attached. One possible result of full relations with the Holy See would be an official visit by Pope John Paul II to Britain even as soon as next year.

Continued on page 2, col 5

Secret warning on strike plans ignored

By Peter Hennessy

Mrs Margaret Thatcher has ignored the recommendations of a secret report prepared for her while in opposition by Lord Carrington, that a Conservative Government should make detailed preparations to cope with strikes that threaten essential supplies and services.

Lord Carrington and his committee of former ministers and advisers took evidence in strict confidence from prominent businessmen and retired civil servants.

Their findings emphasized the need for senior ministers and the best available civil servants to plan, during periods of industrial quiet, particularly in summer, for November-April "strike season" contingencies.

The report, elements of which were disclosed in *The Times* on April 18, last year, suggested that it would not be sensible to engage in planning before a new Conservative Cabinet was in place with access to "the books".

It led to an expectation that the Thatcher Administration would commission the first thoroughgoing review of emergency arrangements since Lord Jellicoe, then Lord Privy Seal, and Sir John Hunt, then a Cabinet Office deputy secretary, reorganized the network, at the request of Mr Edward Heath, after the 1972 coal strike.

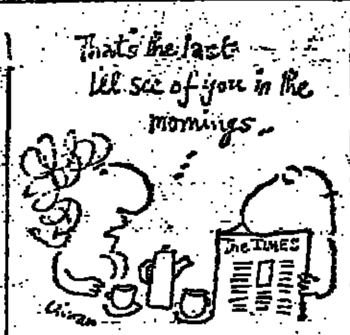
The Civil Contingencies Unit (CCU) of the Cabinet Office, offspring of the Jellicoe-Hunt review, has been operating in a low key since last May. Ministers have been encouraged by Mrs Thatcher to prepare to combat Civil Service Strikes in areas where they are the direct employer. For the rest of the public sector, and the whole private sector, ministers have adopted a laisser faire attitude.

The report of the annual Civil Contingencies Review, prepared in August and September by a Cabinet Office team of Mr Robert Wade-Gery, Mr Richard Hastie-Smith and Brigadier Richard Bishop, reached Mrs Thatcher last month. It contained nothing dramatic.

In August and September officials were worried about possible coal and rail strikes. Meetings of the CCU, however, were confined to civil servants.

Late last month ministers became alarmed about the coal stocks. Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, authorized meetings at official level to brood on the consequences of a coalfields dispute. The unit took the opportunity to review a wider spectrum of possible trouble.

First of an eight-part series, Page 4



Unchanged but not unchanging

This is the first issue of *The Times* since publication was suspended on November 30 last year. We are glad to be back, and thank our readers, advertisers and newsagents for their patience and loyalty.

During the suspension much thought was given to ways of improving the paper, and this we hope to do in the coming months. Today, however, we return as we left, unchanged but not unchanging, in the belief that readers also prefer continuity.

A news review covering the main events and developments at home and abroad during the period of suspension will be published with tomorrow's issue. The first of a three-part obituaries supplement will be published on Friday.

Because of staff shortages in the telephone sales department, advertisers are requested to forward classified copy in writing. We apologize for any inconvenience that may cause.

An interim solution was reached last night in an inter-union dispute that threatened republication of *The Times* after the intervention of Mr William Keys, chairman of the TUC Printing Industries Committee.

He called in leaders of the two unions involved, Mr Joe Wade, general secretary of the National Graphical Association, and Mr Edward O'Brien, assistant general secretary of the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel, for urgent talks on who should control new counter-stackers introduced by the company.

After six hours of talks a formula was agreed between the unions and the management that will ensure production of *The Times*.

A number of issues remain to be resolved about the operation of certain equipment in relation to production of *The Sunday Times*, and further meetings will take place.

All parties involved in the discussions last night expressed their confidence that the issues would be resolved and that *The Sunday Times* would appear next Sunday.

Two men get 'life' for news boy's murder

Two men convicted of the murder of Carl Bridgewater, aged 13, a newspaper delivery boy, were sentenced at Stafford Crown Court yesterday to life imprisonment. Mr Justice Drake recommended that James Robinson, aged 45, and Vincent Hickey, aged 25, both serve at least 25 years.

A 17-year-old in the dock with them was also found guilty of the boy's murder and ordered to be detained during her Majesty's pleasure. A fourth man, found guilty of manslaughter, was jailed for 12 years.

As the sentences were announced there were outbursts from the public gallery from relatives of some of the accused men, who protested the innocence of the men in the dock. They were escorted from the court by police officers.

Michael Hickey, aged 17, was ordered to be detained during her Majesty's pleasure, and Patrick Molloy, aged 51, the only member of the gang who, the judge said, had shown a measure of remorse, was sentenced to 12 years for manslaughter.

Before sentencing the four, who were convicted by a jury on Friday, the Judge said: "Your character and life style have gradually been revealed to this Court . . . it is an ugly picture which shows you to be dangerous, greedy and callous men."

'hlorine gas menace forces quarter of million people to leave city

ississauga, a city of 250,000 e about nine miles west of nto, was a ghost town after the threat of deadly ine gas from a railway ck forced the evacuation of ntire population.

: crisis now appears to be g, and the evacuees may ble to return to their homes in 48 hours.

e evacuation began early rday after a goods train ving through the city was ailed. The train carried ut 90 tons of chlorine as ll as tanks full of other micals.

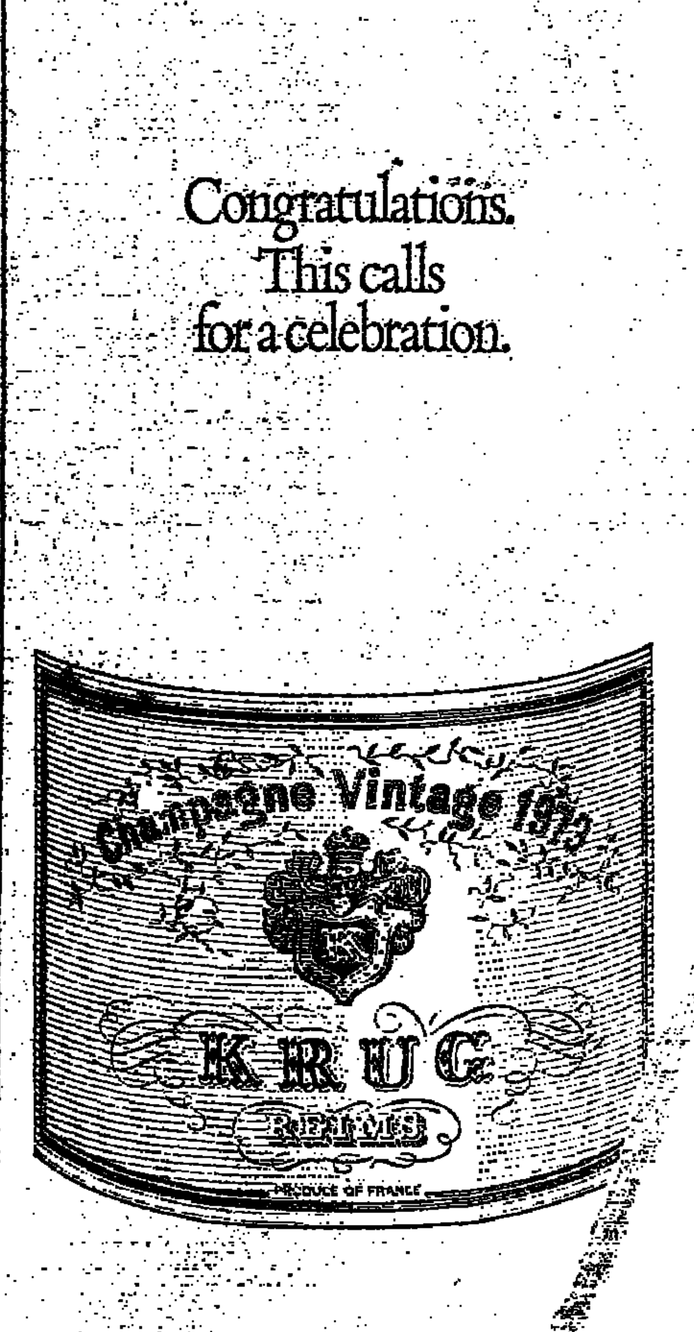
Several tank cars exploded and caught fire. When the flames threatened to engulf the car carrying the chlorine the authorities ordered residents out of an ever widening area of the city.

Finally, last night the police announced that an area of 50 square miles, encompassing Mississauga, with its high priced homes and well-groomed golf courses, was to be evacuated.

Small leakages were occurring from a pressure valve on the chlorine tanker car. There were fears that further explosions or intense heat might rip the car apart and clothe the city in a lethal cloud

Today, the fire was still burning in what the fire department descibed as a "controlled, contained" fashion. Chlorine was still leaking, but it was not regarded as a significant threat. No casualities had been reported.

Chlorine is the poison gas used on the western front in the First World War. Officials said anyone breathing air containing three parts of chlorine per million for 15 minutes would require medical treatment.



ittle hope of ax cuts, says ir Geoffrey

Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, sterday painted a gloomy picture for economy, which included a clear rning that there will be little room tax cuts in the spring Budget. The esent policy of slowing money growth reducing borrowing would take ority over cutting income tax, he d. The prospect of a rise to a record el in the Minimum Lending Rate se yesterday as money market interest tes continued to rise sharply. The terbank rate at one stage yesterday ached 16 per cent Page 23

hell to raise prices

ell is planning across-the-board price es for its petrol and petroleum prots. The size of the increases and en they would be implemented has t yet been decided, but it is likely to before Christmas Page 23

'O test may end

e experiment of having "worker rectors" on the board of the Post ffice Corporation should be abanoned, management have told a inister. But the unions have argued hat the experiment in industrial emocracy should continue Page 2

Afghan rebels suffer worst defeat of war

The Pathan tribesmen fighting a guerrilla war in eastern Afghanistan against the Moscow-backed Kabul regime have been decisively defeated in an offensive intended to dislodge them from their mountain strongholds before the start of winter. It was the worst defeat in the year-old war for the Muslim insurgents Page 3

Randall's good start

England, sent in to bat, were all out for 176 in their three-day match against Queensland, when bad light stopped play 40 minutes early. Queensland had scored 38 for two. Randall, who opened the innings with Boycott, scored 97. John Woodcock, page 20

Papal hunger appeal

The Pope appealed to rich countries to adapt a more practical approach towards world hunger. Addressing the United Nations Food and Agricultura Organization in Rome, he said that the problem could no longer be tackled by appeals to sentiment Page 7

Immigration fight

The Home Office's refusal to allow the Commission for Racial Equality to investigate its immigration procedures is to be challenged in the High Court. The decision, which could embarrass the Home Office, illustrates the stronger stance being taken Page 2

Fraud sets off purge on maritime crime

Measures to combat the rising level of maritime crime are expected after the uncovering of a big shipping fraud in the Mediterranean. A leading Greek lawyer and three other men have been arrested in connexion with the disappearance of a cargo valued at $3m (about £1.5m) Page 23

Kampuchean tragedy

Caught up in the vicious fighting between the Khmer Rouge and the Vietnamese, Kampuchea's hapless people are streaming across the Thai border. Hun Samay, once an accountant in Phnom Penh, reached safety after a four-month jungle trek. His story of brutality and death under Pol Pot is typical of the tribulation of his countrymen Page 8

Northern Ireland: British troops face longer tours of duty in Ulster 6

Nato: Defence Ministers of 11 nations to hold secret talks on nuclear weapons capable of reaching Russia 7

Summertime: Almost the whole of Europe will put the clocks on one hour next year 7

No cut in rate grant

The Government is to maintain its rate support grant at 61 per cent next financial year. It has also set aside more than £1,000m to cover the cost of comparability pay claims by local authority staff Page 6

Lord Amory ill

Lord Amory, Chancellor of the Exchequer from 1958 to 1960, was admitted to the National Heart Hospital in London last night after feeling unwell. His condition later was comfortable. Amory is 79.

هكذا من الاصل

[H]OME NEWS

[M]anagement press minister to [a]bandon Post Office worker directors' experiment

[By] Paul Routledge
[Lab]our Editor

[Th]e first experiment in in[du]strial democracy in the pub[lic] sector, which put trade [un]ionists on the board of the [Po]st Office Corporation, may be [ab]andoned soon.

Mr Adam Butler, Minister of [Sta]te at the Department of [In]dustry, is considering the [fut]ure of the scheme, and there [is] strong pressure from profes[sio]nal management in the [in]dustry to dispense with the [sev]en "worker directors" who [ha]ve taken part in decision-[ma]king over the past two years. The minister has been told [the] management's views but the [tra]de union nominees have [ma]intained that the experiment [ha]s proved of value and should [be] extended.

In general, the Conservatives [ar]e opposed to the worker-[di]rector brand of industrial [de]mocracy, preferring consulta[tiv]e machinery with the work[fo]rce at a lower level. In the [ca]se of the Post Office that [vi]ew is likely to be enforced by [th]e confidential draft of an [in]dependent report on the im[pa]ct of workers on the board [no]w circulating among the [pa]rties.

The document, prepared by [th]e Industrial Relations Re[se]arch Unit of Warwick [U]niversity, details many man[ag]ement objections to the "intrusion" of trade unionists [in] the running of the industry, [an]d concludes that conflict still [ex]ists and there are still "two [si]des".

The trade union nominees on the board fear that the Government will abandon the scheme rather than make the positive political commitment needed to keep it going.

Under the original legislation introduced by the Labour government, the unions automatically lose their seats on the board on December 31 if Mr Butler does not extend their term of office by confirming an amendment to the Post Office Act, 1969.

Labour's Industry Secretary, Mr Eric Varley, was obliged to make that concession in the enabling legislation to get it through the House of Commons.

The Warwick report contains some fundamental criticism of the way the Post Office board operates, arguing that its influence is often marginal. Decisions are actually taken at a lower, executive management board and then put up for formal approval.

The unions found it difficult to change those decisions, and there were cases of issues being deliberately kept from the top board because they could reveal management thinking and therefore be of potential use to the unions.

Managers told the Warwick researchers they felt they had been pushed into the industrial democracy experiment by political and union pressures in the climate of opinion after publication of the Bullock report, which favoured workers on the boards of public and private enterprise.

But after experiencing the TUC version of industrial democracy in action, the Post Office management's verdict was that it did not meet their criteria of success.

That was the preponderant view of board members at a special meeting to consider the future of the experiment last week; those arguments were conveyed in anonymous contributions that have now gone to the minister.

It was conceded that the trade union nominees, six men and one woman, did sway the board on a number of occasions, and acted as an early warning system when industrial trouble threatened. But union initiatives were relatively rare, and usually less successful than those of professional management.

Management also had a pragmatic rather than political or social view of industrial democracy. It was seen as a means to predetermined ends, and where it might endanger those objectives it should not be employed. None of the managers wanted the scheme to be extended to the individual businesses, but equally they did not want to take the blame for the failure of the experiment.

A final version of the Warwick report is expected, but the research already done is likely to encourage the minister to feel that he can safely ditch the worker-director presence. The unions argue that the experiment was justified and should continue, with improvements.

[M]iners lower [s]ights on [p]ay claims

[B]y Our Labour Editor

The National Coal Board will [m]ake a marginally improved [p]ay offer to the miners today, [b]ut it will almost certainly not [b]e enough.

The National Union of Mine[w]orkers has effectively moved [fr]om its militant claim for rises [o]f up to 63 per cent, and is now [l]ooking for a deal in the 20-25 [p]er cent range.

Its executive has rejected the [b]oard's global offer of £140m [f]or wage increases next year. The miners have completely [c]hanged the basis of their [c]laim, demanding now a [s]traight percentage increase [f]or all grades.

According to NUM figures, a [2]0 per cent rise would take the [f]ace worker to £101 minimum [a] week (excluding production [b]onuses), and 25 per cent to [£]106.

Ministers may be forced to revise union immunities

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

Ministers are resigning themselves to being forced to include a revision of trade union immunities in the controversial Bill on union reform due to be introduced in the Commons next month.

They expect that Lord Denning's limitation in the Court of Appeal on "secondary" union action will be reversed by the House of Lords.

The Conservatives hoped that Lord Denning's judgment might in effect entrench their manifesto commitment on immunities, leaving them to concentrate in their Bill on reforms of picketing, the closed shop, and government funds for postal ballots.

Written judgment by the law lords is expected this month, after the hearing last week of the appeal in the case of Express Newspapers Ltd versus McShane and others of the National Union of Journalists. The case, seen by the TUC as endangering union freedoms, involved NUJ "blacking" last year at Express Newspapers of Press Association material.

In essence Lord Denning, in dismissing the NUJ appeal, upheld the initial judge's ruling. That was that since the NUJ had no dispute with the *Express*, its action was too far removed from the original dispute with provincial newspapers to permit them to benefit from traditional immunity from legal action.

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, and his junior ministers are discussing the review of immunities promised in the Conservative manifesto.

Commission ta[k]es harder line on enforcement of race law

Home Office to be sued over immigration

By Annabel Ferriman

The Home Office is to be taken to court by the Commission for Racial Equality over its refusal to allow the commission to carry out a formal investigation into its immigration procedures.

The commission's decision, which could cause much embarrassment to the Home Office, represents a shift of attitude by the commission, which has decided to take a tougher line with those they suspect of breaking the law.

It also represents the culmination of a legal wrangle which began in February, when it was discovered that the Home Office had been carrying out virginity tests on Asian women coming into the country to joint their fiancés. The commission decided to carry out a formal investigation and after taking advice from leading counsel wrote to the Home Office announcing its intention.

The Home Office replied saying it had consulted the Attorney General and found that the commission did not have the power to do so. The commission again turned to counsel, who said the Home Office was wrong.

The commissioners have now decided to challenge in the High Court the Home Office's refusal to give way. It will apply by originating summons to a Master, and documents are being prepared.

In taking on the Home Office the commission is challenging its paymaster. It is understood that Mr David Lane, chairman of the commission and a former junior minister at the Home Office, opposed the idea.

If the commission succeeds, other government departments could be at risk. A formal investigation is a powerful if cumbersome weapon. It gives the commission the right to subpoena witnesses, demand the disclosure of documents and issue a non-discrimination notice, enforceable through the courts, if it finds discrimination has taken place.

Mr William Keys, general secretary of the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades and a member of the commission, siad yesterday: "The decision is indicative of the mood the commission is in. Race discrimination is rampant in this country.

"The commission has decided to take a tougher line. You cannot deal with discrimination in a milk-and-water fashion. There has been a great reluctance to use the law in the past, but now we are going to be less reluctant."

The commission is intending to hold a meeting in December to consider the Representation of the People's Act, which allows political parties, including the National Front, to hold meetings at election times. It is worried about the scope the Act gives to the front to stir up racial hatred.

The new and tougher line that the commission is taking will be welcomed by some members of its staff who have been pressing for some time for a more energetic use of its law enforcement powers.

Mr Kuttan Menon, the commission's legal officer, who says he has represented more complainants in industrial tribunal proceedings under the Race Relations Act than any other lawyer, believes that law enforcement should be given much higher priority by the commission.

"We must learn from the North American experience," he said. In the United States, for example, decades of promotional activities, designed to persuade whites to be nice to blacks and to afford them equal rights under the law, had no significant impact in eliminating racial discrimination.

"Vigorous law enforcement by federal agencies and a few landmark Supreme Court decisions drastically altered the picture and created the climate for change.

"The highest priority should be given to aiding individual complainants and to formal investigations. It is not merely a question of increased allocation of resources to law enforcement activities. There must be a radical reappraisal of the approach to law enforcement."

Mr Goolam Meeran, the commission's principal complaints officer, said that unless the commission put more money into law enforcement and the training of people in outside agencies to heop complainants to take cases to tribunals, the Race Relations Act, 1976, would remain largely ineffective.

"It is significant that of 70-odd successful industrial tribunal complainants, all but three or four have been assisted by the commission.

"The commission has not been able to divert enough of its resources into programmes for advising and training ethnic minority groups and other agencies in the knowledge and skills reuired in aiding individual complainants. Urgent steps should be taken to remedy that situation."

Mr Reginald Bosanquet: Feeling "very chipper si[nce] the break".

News reade[r] blames 'treadmill'

Mr Reginald Bosanquet, [the] television newsreader, yeste[rday] explained that he quit In[de]pendent Television Ne[ws] because he felt he had [got] himself on to a "treadmill".

He plans to write "bo[th] serious and cheerful" boo[ks]. The long television strike h[as] changed his life in many wa[ys], he said.

"I became involved [in] several projects because [I] could not sit around twiddli[ng] my thumbs and doing nothi[ng]. I also decided that I did n[ot] particularly want to work [in] the evenings any more", [he] said.

Mr Bosanquet said his r[es]ignation was not due to ha[ve] been announced until yest[er]day.

He emphasized that he h[ad] been keen at first to return [to] newsreading after the 11-we[ek] strike. "But I found it rat[her] arduous to come back. I felt [I] had got myself on to a tre[ad]mill.

"Now I am feeling ve[ry] chipper, having made [the] break", he said.

He and the ITN editor, [Mr] David Nicholas, had agreed [to] part "with mutual affection [on] both sides."

He has plans to write th[ree] books, including one seri[ous] work, and is working on [an] anecdotal history of 25 ye[ars] of ITN.

Mr Bosanquet began [his] career with ITN in 1955 af[ter] two years' national service. [He] was educated at Winches[ter] and Oxford. He became [a] diplomatic correspond[ent] before joining the news a[nd] current affairs program[me] *Dateline*. He became a ne[ws]reader in 1967.

Liberal protest at exclusion from committees

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Mr Alan Beith, the Liberal Party Chief Whip in the Commons, last night protested about the exclusion of minority parties from 10 of the 14 special select committees to be set up to scrutinize the activities of government departments.

Names of the committee members, put forward after a long delay by the House of Commons Selection Committee, will come before the House for approval later this week.

Mr Beith said: "The committee has completely failed to carry out its responsibilities. It has been content to accept the nominations of the party whips and failed to make sure that the composition of the committees fairly reflect the composition of the House.

"The Liberals and other minorities are massively underrepresented. There should be least six minority places, if not more." Until this session, Mr Beith was a member of the committee of selection, but was dropped after the general election. "There is nobody there now to fight for us", he said.

Vatican relations with Britain strengthened

Continued from page 1

While it is thought that there is no way in which diplomatic relations with the Holy See would change the constitutional position of the Church of England, and the Queen as supreme governor of it, there is some Government wariness towards the attitude of the Church of England and also towards the Northern Ireland Protestant community.

The present Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Donald Coggan, is understood to have advised against full recognition, though his successor, the Right Rev Robert Runcie, due to be installed next year, is said to be in favour. That could be a factor in the timing of a decision on full relations.

The Papal excommunication in 1570 of Queen Elizabeth I has been mentioned as an obstacle, but the Vatican's view is that that now has no relevance whatever. A possible overlap of jurisdiction with the Papal Nuncio in Dublin concerning ecclesiastical matters in Northern Ireland is said to present only minor technical problems.

Archbishop Heim is known to have promoted the British Government's attitude to Northern Ireland very forcefully in Rome, and it is recognized that his efforts persuaded the Pope not to refer in Ireland to the controversy surrounding H Block at the Maze Prison.

Until now relations between the Holy See and the British Government have been entirely one-sided, with a British minister, but not an ambassador, accredited at the Vatican and full diplomatic privileges for the British legation there. Of more than 100 diplomatic links with governments, only the British case has that anomaly.

Most ambassadors to the Holy See represent Third World countries, few of which are predominantly Roman Catholic.

It is traditionally prepared to exchange diplomats with almost any type of regime, but also traditionally never takes the initiative. That has hindered normalization with Britain, as Archbishop Heim has felt obliged not to press for it, in keeping with that policy.

Although he is sometimes treated as an unofficial diplomat as a private courtesy, he was until the granting of immunity nothing more than the Pope's personal representative to the Roman Catholic Church in Britain, and legally just a private visitor to this country.

He is Swiss, and one of the world's leading authorities on heraldry.

The Queen would be consulted about a final decision to open full relations, but it is pointed out that her attitude to the Papacy was made clear when she asked that flags should be flown at half mast on public buildings last year out of respect for the deaths of Pope Paul VI and Pope John Paul I.

Savings bank suspends 207 civil servants

The Department of National Savings yesterday suspended 207 civil servants at its headquarters in Cowglen, Glasgow. They had been warned last week that they would be suspended unless they agreed to resume normal working.

The staff, who have been suspended without pay, are clerical workers and machine operators, members of the Civil and Public Services Association, which has been banning overtime as part of its campaign against Civil Service cuts.

A CPSA official said that nearly all the union's 3,500 members at the office walked out after the suspensions.

Mr Terence Adams, the union's national officer responsible for the National Savings Bank, said that those who walked out would return to work today but bans on overtime, substitutions and temporary promotions would be maintained.

Communists vote for more democracy

By Ian Bradley

Mr Gordon McLennan, General Secretary of the Communist Party, has blamed the party's serious loss of members on the differences in the international communist movement, armed conflicts between socialist states and limitations of democracy in communist countries.

He told the party's national congress, which ends today, that membership had dropped by a fifth to 20,599 in the past two years. That is the worst loss since the aftermath of the Russian invasion of Hungary.

In an attack on those within the party who support a stronger pro-Soviet line, Mr McLennan said: "We cannot agree with those comrades who argue that these actions in socialist countries have little or no effect on membership."

The congress defeated a resolution which criticized the party for not doing enough to publicize the achievements of socialist countries, particularly the Soviet Union and Czec[ho]slovakia.

Concern about the party's l[ack] of support and discussion of [its] future role has dominated [the] four-day congress. New p[ro]posals for inner party dem[o]cracy have been accepted wh[ich] will have the effect of allowi[ng] more open discussion and cr[iti]cism among communists a[nd] less direction from the cen[tre].

The congress has also cal[led] on the party's executive co[m]mittee to make the fighting [of] parliamentary and local el[ec]tions a higher priority.

There is considerable conc[ern] that the communists field[ed] only 38 candidates in the p[ast] general election and none in [the] European elections. The pa[rty] is to launch a campaign in s[up]port of proportional repres[en]tation.

Mr McLennan said that [be]cause the left was making s[ig]nificant advances in the Labo[ur] Party, it did not mean th[at] there was less need for a Co[m]munist Party.

Judge clears doctors

Doctors who switched off a life-support machine at a Southampton hospital were vindicated by Mr Justice Willis at Winchester Crown Court yesterday.

There had been no evidence to show that Mrs Christine Malcherek, aged 31, was not dead before doctors switched off the machine, the judge said.

He sentenced her husband, Richard Malcherek, aged 32, an electrician, of Portons, Wiltshire, to life imprisonment.

The jury had taken under an hour to convict him of murdering his estranged wife at her flat in Poole, Dorset, last March. He pleaded not guilty.

Counsel had earlier told the jury of eight men and four women that they would have to consider whether Mrs Malcherek had died 10 days later from stab wounds inflicted by her husband or because a life-support machine was switched off in the hospital.

Pickets allow oil delivery to hospital

By John Roper
Health Services Correspondent

Hopes of an end to an unofficial union strike by engineers and maintenance men at Charing Cross Hospital, London, rose yesterday when pickets allowed the first delivery of heating oil to the hospital for three weeks.

The hospital's two storage tanks are nearly empty and the delivery was only about a twelfth of what is needed.

The strikers and the management met last night, but union representatives refused to give an assurance that oil tankers would be allowed into the hospital without interruption.

The hospital said the decision meant "carrying on day-to-day".

The strike, by 55 men in the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers and the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union, has stopped all admissions to the hospital and closed the accident and emergency department.

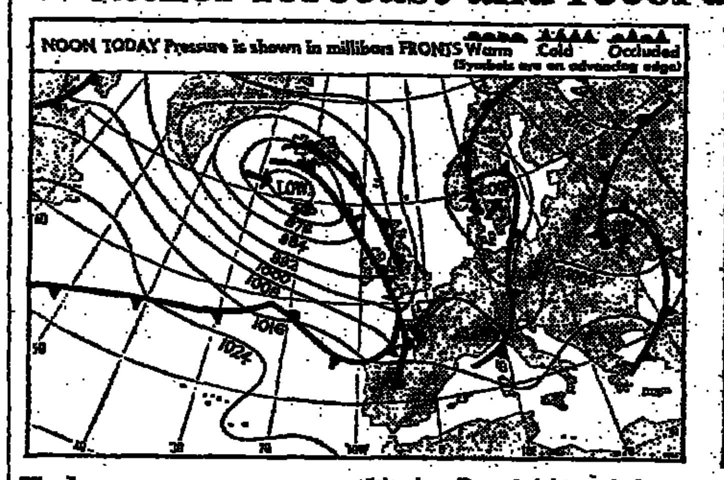
£10,000 bail for City detective

Det Inspector Philip Cuthbert, aged 37, of the City of London police, was granted bail in the sum of £10,000 at Hatfield Magistrates Court, Hertfordshire, yesterday until December 10 charged with assisting in the retention of £500 of goods stolen from a Boots chemist depot in Hertfordshire two years ago.

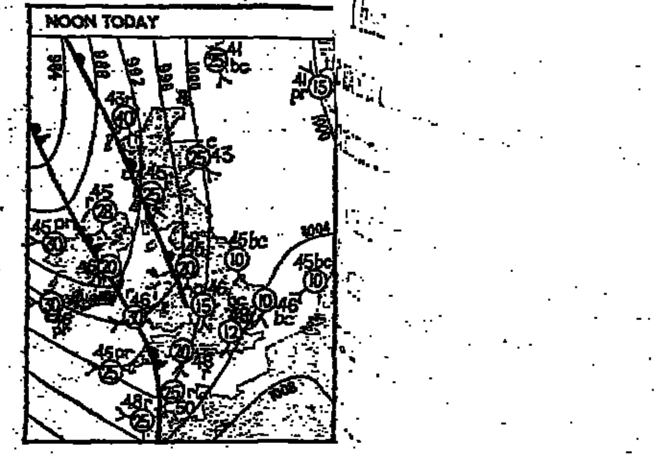
The charge alleged that Mr Cuthbert, of Elm Hall, Eastern Avenue, Wanstead, east London, took part in the retention of the property during a two-year period by or for the benefit of Terry Wackett.

Weather forecast and recordings

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded (Symbols are on advancing edge)



NOON TODAY



b—blue sky; bc—half clouded; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; pr—periodical rain with snow.

Today

Sun rises: 7.14 am Sun sets: 4.15 pm
Moon rises: 12.10 am Moon sets: 2.3 pm
New Moon: November 19.

Lighting up: 4.45 pm to 6.46 am.

High water: London Bridge, 8.1 am, 5.6m (18.4 ft); 8.49 pm, 5.8m (19 ft). Avonmouth, 1.15 am 9.6m (31.5 ft); 1.47 pm, 9.3m (32 ft). Dover, 5.40 am, 5.3m (17.5 ft); 6.43 pm, 5.1m (16.8 ft). Hull, 1.7 pm, 5.5m (18.2 ft). Liverpool, 6.5 am, 7.1m (23.1 ft); 6.32 pm, 7.2m (23.8 ft).

Troughs of low pressure will move E across W and central areas.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, SE and E England, East Anglia: Dry, sunny periods and frosty, becoming rather cloudy, rain later; wind S, light, becoming moderate or fresh; max temp 8°C or 9°C (46°F or 48°F).

Central S, SW and Central N England, Midlands, Channel Islands: Dry, bright and frosty, becoming cloudy with occasional rain; wind SW, light or moderate, becoming S, fresh or strong; max temp 9°C to 11°C (48°F to 52°F).

Wales, Isle of Man: Mostly cloudy, occasional rain, sleet or snow on hills at first; more persistent rain later; wind S, fresh, becoming strong; max temp 10°C to 11°C (50°F to 52°F).

NW and NE England, Lake District, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen and Moray Firth: Dry, bright and frosty, becoming cloudy with occasional rain; wind S, moderate, increasing to fresh or strong; max temp 7°C to 8°C (45°F to 46°F).

SW and NW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll and N Ireland: Mostly cloudy, occasional rain, snow on hills, more persistent rain later; wind S, fresh or strong; max temp 8°C to 9°C (46°F to 48°F).

NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Dry and bright at first, otherwise mainly cloudy, occasional rain preceded by snow on hills; wind S, light, increasing to strong; max temp 7°C to 8°C (45°F to 46°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Showers, wintry and heavy at times; longer outbreaks of rain, with snow on hills; windy and rather cold.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max, 6 am to 6 pm, 8°C (46°F); min, 6 pm to 6 am, 8°C (46°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 69 per cent. Rain, 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.38in. Sun, 24 hr to 6 pm, 2.9 hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,010.9 millibars, rising. 1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY; c, cloudy; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sunny; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	s	25	77	Cardiff	s	7	45	Jersey	f	10	50	Nice	s	14	57
Algiers	s	17	63	Cologne	c	6	43	L. Palmas	f	21	70	Oslo	sn	-1	30
Amstrdm	r	8	46	Copenhagen	c	5	41	Lisbon	s	14	57	Paris	c	11	52
Athens	c	19	66	Dublin	s	5	41	Locarno	f	7	45	Reykjavik	r	2	36
Barcelona	s	14	57	Edinburgh	s	3	37	London	f	7	45	Rome	s	13	55
Beirut	s	24	75	Florence	s	12	54	Madrid	s	9	48	Ronaldsway	s	6	43
Belfast	s	1	30	Funchal	r	19	66	Majorca	s	17	63	Stockholm	c	[illegible]	[illegible]
Berlin	s	6	43	Geneva	c	3	37	Malaga	s	17	63	Tel Aviv	s	24	75
Biarritz	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gibraltar	f	17	63	Malta	s	17	63	Venice	s	10	50
[illegible]				[illegible]				[illegible]				[illegible]			

Overseas selling prices

Australia, $1.50; Austria, Sch [illegible]; Bahrain, BD 0.600; Belgium, Bfr [illegible]; Canaries, Pts 80; Cyprus, 350 M[ils]; Denmark, Dkr 4.75; Finland, Fmk [illegible]; France, Frs 4; Germany, Dm 2[illegible]; Greece, Dr 40; Holland, Gl 2.25; [illegible] Rials 110; Iraq, ID 0.150; [Irish] Republic 20p; Italy, Lire 900; Jo[rdan] JD 0.375; Kuwait, KD 0.500; Leb[anon] LL 4.00; Luxembourg, Lf 25; Ma[deira] Esc 35; Malta, 20c; Morocco, 4.6[illegible]; Norway, Kr 5.00; Oman, OR [illegible]; Pakistan, 9.00 Rps; Portugal, E[sc] [illegible]; Qatar QR 6.00; Saudi Arabia, 6R[ls]; Singapore, $1.8; Spain, Pts 75; S[weden] Skr 6.00; Switzerland, Sfrs 2.70; [illegible] 4.50; Tunisia, Din 0.35; [illegible] Canada, $1.50; UAE, Dh 6.50; [Yugo]slavia, Din. 26.

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"I arrived back at Heathrow to ind 'The Times' unexpectedly waiting or me. I was less surprised to see the Volvo, though equally gratified, as my iggage had inevitably multiplied on y travels."

I had forgotten that 'The Times' was due to make its ppearance on November 13th and seeing it at the airport ews-stand had been rather like bumping into an old friend n an unexpected place.

I bought two copies, one as a souvenir, and looked oward to doing the crossword on my way into town.

Outside the terminal, Parker had somehow managed o persuade the traffic wardens that h Volvo had a divine right to park on a louble yellow line.

It's strange how certain cars ave this effect on officialdom. In my xperience, the Volvo 264 GLE has few equals in this respect.

The boot was already open and I was pleased to see that the painting I had bought in New York fitted neatly into its carpeted depths. I remembered Parker telling me the boot was bigger than that of our last Mercedes.

Soon we were on the motorway and I settled back in the deep plush seat and watched the world slip quietly by.

"How did you find New York, sir?" I have always been convinced that good chauffeurs are born not made. I had often imagined Parker as a small child, assiduously polishing his pedal car and practising polite uestions.

"Well actually the pilot did it for me." I couldn't resist easing him.

If he was amused he showed no sign of it and merely aid, "By the look of it, we shan't be needing the air conditioning or sun roof today."

I had chosen the Volvo on Parker's recommendation and he took a continuing delight in mentioning its many built-in features.

I braced myself for further glowing tributes to the entral locking system or the electrically operated door mirrors ut surprisingly Parker remained as silent as the car.

I snuggled deeper into my seat and as the Volvo moved into the outside lane turned with keen anticipation to e crossword.

The compiler seemed to have lost none of his cunning during his enforced sabbatical and by the Chiswick round-bout I still had half the clues to solve.

Parker interrupted my thoughts. "We're running into a bit of traffic sir, I thought perhaps a slight detour?"

"Certainly," I said, "whatever you think necessary."

Not for the first time, I thought Parker had scalculated as he swung the big car round into a very tight ey-way.

He must have heard my slight intake of breath because as the car straightened up and continued on its journey he quietly said –

"Nothing to worry about, sir. The Volvo has a very small turning circle – only slightly larger than a Mini's. And of course, power steering."

There are times, I confess, when evangelical fervour of any kind makes me apprehensive, and I was beginning to feel that, at any moment, Parker would produce a fountain pen and ask me to sign leasing papers for a whole fleet of Volvos.

I resisted saying anything, however, and concentrated instead on a particularly tricky anagram.

(Fortunately, the Volvo has the kind of suspension that makes thinking easy and writing legible.)

It took me another ten minutes to finish the crossword and when I looked up we were just passing the Albert Hall. I had recovered my good humour and felt slightly churlish at my silence.

"It's good to have 'The Times' crossword back" I said.

"Yes, I didn't find it too difficult sir". I could hear the smile in Parker's voice and I felt he deserved his revenge.

"Has the Chairman chosen his car yet?"

A conciliatory question that I knew would be accepted as such.

"I'm pleased to say he's considering one of these, sir. He is very impressed with the degree of refinement."

As if to emphasise the point, he slid down one of the electric windows as we turned into the cobbled courtyard.

"Not to mention the value" I murmured, anticipating the grilling I was likely to get over my American expenses.

"Well, £9,995 is not a lot to pay for an automatic, 6-cylinder car of this class." Parker had opened the door for me and I stepped out into the mews.

I stood still for a moment or two, quietly taking in the familiar scene.

"If you won't be needing the car for a while, sir, I'd like to give it a polish." Parker brought me suddenly back to earth.

I looked at the gleaming metallic paintwork and said "But it looks impeccable already."

"Perhaps, by American standards, sir."

It was good to be back.

The Volvo 264 GLE.

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ome old grammar chools hope for art in aid scheme

Diana Geddes
ıcation Correspondent

ıt least a dozen grammar ools, including some of the est and most respected foundions in the country, are conering going independent des- the removal of any immete threat of comprehensive rganization.

lost of them provide the only aining free selective educa- in their areas. All are ing to take part in the Govment's controversial assisted ces scheme.

roposals for a scheme to help ldren from low-income homes attend independent schools included in the Government's Education Bill, which reved its second reading in the use of Commons on Novem- 5. The earliest date on ich the scheme could be induced is September, 1981. It xpected to cost £6m in the t year and build up to a l of £55m (at current prices) er seven years.

he Government has asked t any school interested in ning the assisted places eme should submit its name the Secretary of State

t is expected that most of 119 direct-grant schools that nt independent in 1976 will nt to participate, as well as umber of other independent ools. The maintained gramr schools that are now also ting with the idea would have go independent to be eligible. King Edward VI School, in rwick, the only boys' gramr left in the city, tried to independent when threated by comprehensive reorgantion two years ago. But its ns were blocked by the Toryntrolled council, which dended £600,000 by way of comısation for the loss of 400 ondary school places from maintained sector.

Now that the assisted places ieme is offering hope of ab-bing at least some of the intained school children withthe independent sector, King ward's, a voluntary-aided ımmar school founded in 95, is hoping that the local thority will prove more amenle, and is about to reopen gotiations on going independnt.

Like many other grammar ools, King Edward's is word about its long-term prosets. A future Labour Govıment would almost certainly ss a new law to end selecn in the maintained sector. would be unlikely, however, abolish all the independent ools, despite its threatening ises to that effect, if only bense of the enormous cost. The schools are aware that assisted places scheme is st unlikely to survive a Labour Government, but it would at least help to tide a newly independent school over the difficult first years. By the time Labour had passed the necessary legislation to terminate the scheme, as it has promised it will, it is hoped that the school would have found its feet and be relatively immune from further interference.

Parents who are now able to send their children free of charge to local grammar schools, many of which provide a better academic education than the independent schools near by, are unlikely to bless the Government for introducing a scheme which could lead to their having to pay fees for the first time, even if those fees are subsidized for the poorer parents.

Parents in Birmingham, where seven maintained grammar schools remain, are likely to be particularly hard hit. All seven schools, including five King Edward VI foundation schools with 4,500 pupils, are considering going independent, and the assisted places scheme is playing a key role in their deliberations.

Few, if any, of the schools in Birmingham want to go independent, but they feel they are particularly vulnerable. At present the Conservatives hold the balance of power in the city council by one vote, but Labour is expected to regain power after the local government elections next May, and it will then almost certainly try to abolish the remaining grammar schools.

Mr David Heap, headmaster of Handsworth grammar school for boys in Birmingham, is worried that if all the grammar schools went independent they could kill each other.

Some grammar schools would have gone independent without an assisted places scheme, but are never the less interested in participating in such a scheme. That applies to the Worcester Royal Grammar School for Boys, which dates back at least to 1291, and hopes to go independent in 1982.

Other grammar schools, like Wisbech Grammar in Cambridgeshire, which celebrates its centenary this year, Thetford Fulmerston in Norfolk, which can trace its headmasters back to 1114 but is probably older, and the Royal Lancaster Grammar, founded in 1469, are less far along the road to independence but are showing great interest in the assisted places scheme, not least in the hope that it might reduce severance payments they may have to make to the council.

Whitehall brief: Secret unit whose judgments are vital during a winter of discontent

Keeping important services going despite strikes

By Peter Hennessy

At the official launching of her election manifesto on April 11, Mrs Margaret Thatcher was asked by a foreign journalist: "Do you think you have enough policemen, soldiers, whatever it takes, to have a confrontation with extremists on an issue of face?"

"I don't think we are quite on the same wavelength", came the brisk reply. The general laughter which greeted it was led by her deputy, Mr William Whitelaw, seated beside her.

Just over three weeks later Mrs Thatcher entered Downing Street and inherited one of the most secret parts of the Cabinet Office machine, the Civil Contingencies Unit (CCU), whose antennae are permanently tuned to that wavelength. Shortly after, she appointed Mr Whitelaw its ministerial overlord. The CCU is a standing Cabinet committee of ministers and civil servants. Its task is to brief the Prime Minister and full Cabinet in advance on the best methods of maintaining essential supplies and services should they be disrupted by industrial action. Once a strike has begun it meets, often several times a day, to plan the Government's reaction to developments.

Its work goes to the heart of the question of the country's governability. In a decade that has seen two Cabinets, those of Mr Edward Heath and Mr James Callaghan, founder in a "winter of discontent", judgments made inside the CCU have proved critical to any government's ability to survive.

Despite the central importance of sound contingency planning for the well-being of every citizen, successive governments have refused to take the public into their confidence about their ability, or lack of it, to cope with trade unions enjoying the power to turn off the necessities of life. The present Cabinet maintains that tradition. Mr Whitelaw, in refusing a request for an interview, wrote to me on September 12: "I do not think it would be fair or sensible of me to take up your time when there is so very little I can say on the matter". Under the Government's proposed Protection of Information Bill, disclosure of "plans and measures for the maintenance of essential supplies and services, whether in time of war or not", will be a criminal offence.

The CCU was established in the spring of 1972 after the existing Emergencies Committee had failed lamentably in priming ministers to handle the consequences of the miners' strike of January-February that year, and, particularly, the quantum leap in union power demonstrated by the massed secondary picket outside the Saltley coke depot in Birmingham. The new streamlined organization was the chief result of a review, conducted for Mr Heath by Lord Jellicoe, then Lord Privy Seal, and Sir John Hunt, then a Cabinet Office deputy secretary.

During the rest of 1972, Brigadier Richard Bishop, CCU secretary throughout its seven-year life, drew up a list of vital services and industries most vulnerable to union action. By early 1973 ministers had detailed estimates of 16 key industries, their capacity for disruption, their importance to the country's well-being and the possibility of using alternative military labour in the event of strikes. Then as now electricity was top of the list. Others have moved up and down as amendments have been made in the light of experience. After last winter, the haulage industry is

Mr Robert Wade-Gery, the Cabinet Office's chief contingency planner.

somewhat higher than the sixteenth place it occupied in 1972. Water, always in the top ten, has moved up to join docks, coal, rail and oil in the group just beneath power, now that the docility of its labour force cannot be taken for granted.

The best way to illustrate how the CCU fulfils its intelligence and executive functions is to construct, in advance, what is likely to happen next month if the Government, for the third year running, has to prepare to break a petrol tanker drivers' strike. The unit will meet several weeks ahead of the possible strike, as a civil servants' group initially. Mr Robert Wade-Gery of the Cabinet Office will open the meeting from the chair by summarizing the contents of the file labelled "Operation Drumstick". It should be possible to maintain about 25 per cent of normal supplies of petrol and oil, he will explain, provided a state of emergency is declared, rationing introduced and the Royal Corps of Transport requisitions oil company vehicles because the Army does not have enough of its own.

He will then invite Mr Ian Hudson and Mr Matthew Wake from the Department of Employment to give the latest intelligence on the position inside the relevant section of the Transport and General Workers' Union. Mr Peter Lazarus, of the Department of Transport, will explain the Department's rationing scheme and the priority to be given to public transport and essential users like the emergency services. Mr Robert Priddle, from the Department of Energy, will convey the oil companies readiness to cooperate with the Government. The Ministry of Defence team, Mr Derek Stephen, Mr Brian Cousins and Brigadier Michael Tillotson, will list the number of troops needed; 5,000 drivers and 10,000 general-duties men to be trained to handle pumps and pipes at the Army's West Moors petroleum centre in Dorset. At least 18 days' notice will be required to get the men back from Germany and through West Moors, particularly if the run-up to the strike spans the Christmas holiday.

With Mr Noel Law of the Home Office, the Ministry of Defence men will emphasize the need to impress upon chief constables their responsibility for securing the safe passage of men and vehicles as they are driven out of company depots to Army barracks and emergency distribution centres. At this point the needs of special interest groups will be raised. Mr Leo Hanson, from the Ministry of Agriculture, might appeal for farmers to be given preferential treatment. Mr David Neville-Jones, from the Department of Industry, could speak up for companies requiring oil to maintain continuous production processes.

Summing up, Mr Wade-Gery will emphasize the need for an urgent meeting of ministers to authorize the drafting of emergency regulations and the proclamation of a state of emergency. Before ministers gather, a handful of officials will receive a special briefing from MI5 on the origins of the possible strike, whether a small group of extremists is manipulating the men or whether it is a straight "pay and conditions" affair. Invariably, the evidence points to the latter.

A joint meeting of ministers and civil servants, under Mr Whitelaw's chairmanship, will then prepare recommendations for the full Cabinet. Should the strike materialize, CCU will meet each afternoon to collate reports from the Department of Transport's regional emergency committees and react to events until the strike is ended.

If Mrs Thatcher feels that a purely ministerial forum is necessary to take political decisions arising from the dispute, she may imitate Mr Callaghan by setting up an equivalent of the secret ad hoc committee, known as "GEN 158", which he established during the winter crisis of January-March this year. In that case, CCU would meet separately as a mixed committee with Mr Wade-Gery and Brigadier Bishop the only civil servants present at the ministerial group. Once the strike is settled, lessons will be noted for future use and Brigadier Bishop will amend his "Operation Drumstick" file accordingly.

Yacht rac challenge fund short of target

By Trevor Fishlock

The fund set up back Britain's 1980 challenge the America's Cup is mor than £300,000 short of its £000 target. But Mr Tony en, the fund's chairman, ied yesterday that the challe was in jeopardy.

"It is true we need lot more money. Without it go off at half-cock", he said But I am confident we shall it. In any case, I am dete ed to go. We have one of t est chances of winning we ha ver had."

Lack of money has ed the original scale of the ld-up.

The backers, the Brit ndustry 1500 Club, hop to raise £1.5m by attracting 00 guinea donations from 500 companies. The intentio as to finance the building two 12-metre yachts to co ete with each other in the ch for the best combina of boat, crew, gear, sails, sts and handling techniques.

But there was never gh money for the two-boa oject. Mr Boyden, a L on businessman and a leadi 2-metre yachtsman for ny years, put almost £200,00 to the challenge; but onl 00 companies have joined th ndicate and it has been d ed to build only one boat.

"Through membership bscriptions and other gif we have raised half the mon we need", Mr Boyden said, nd now we want 200 to 300 re members to pay for the de pment of the most ad ed sails and masts. If we d at we can have the best 12 re in the world. The more ey the better the challenge."

The challenge yacht, n-heart, designed by M an Howlett, was built alu-minium in Southampto nd launched in April. It w the first 12-metre built in in since the 1964 Cup challer, Sovereign, owned by Mr Boyden.

Mr John Oakeley, Lion t's skipper, said yesterday: We need the money to fina evelopment of three new ts and six suits of sails, l their gear. Without d-vanced work the boat ot be properly prepared and ill not go if we are not ur best. But I am sure the ey will come in.

"We have proved ou es in races in Sweden d England. We certainly h e best 12-metre outside e United States and, giv e support we need, we c n the hides off the Americ

The America's Cup ha n successfully defended 23 es since the schooner A a won it in a race aroun e Isle of Wight in 1851. n came close to winning in 1934, with Endeavour.

The two post-war ch challenges, with Sceptr in 1958, and Sovereign in , revealed painfully the nesses in British yachting nology at the time.

"Now we have caught ," Mr Boyden said. "In respects we are ahead. We the boat for the job."

Lionheart has one more ing in the Solent pla before winter lay-up. T begin again in the spring. July and August she will to compete against challen from Australia, Sweden France to win the right to on the Americans off New Rhode Island, in Septembe

Britain's challenge is be made through the Royal So ern Yacht Club, which say has great confidence in the Club's ability to raise the mo needed to make a success challenge.

"I had no doubt we bear the others and go for cup", Mr Boyden said. " have never won it and the is great prestige and satisfa tion to be had from winning It will be good for British bu ness, too. For under a millio pounds that seems to me goo value."

Cuts may further delay new British Library

By John Young
Planning Reporter

Construction of two long-awaited buildings in London, the British Library at St Pancras and the proposed Government conference centre opposite Westminster Abbey, is likely to be delayed still further because of cuts in public expenditure. An announcement in Parliament is expected soon.

Although neither project is expected to be cancelled, the postponement of the library project is likely to cause particular dismay. The first phase alone is estimated to cost at least £80m. At present its services are dispersed among 17 buildings and a campaign to have them amalgamated in a single headquarters has been waged for many years.

That campaign appeared to have been successful in March last year when Mrs Shirley Williams, then Secretary of State for Education and Science, announced that construction was expected to begin this year.

Plans for an international conference centre were disclosed in June last year. It was estimated then that the building would cost more than £15m, although it has since been suggested that the figure might be about twice that.

Poor local response to Elgar statue call

From Penny Symon
Worcester

An appeal for £25,000 to erect a statue of Sir Edward Elgar in Worcester, his birthplace, has met a disappointing response locally.

Half the required sum has been raised, but most of that has come from outside the Midlands. The organizers are to launch a campaign among local traders and industry.

The Elgar Statue Appeal has the Prince of Wales as president. His letter of acceptance said: "We in Britain have been fairly proficient in erecting statues to soldiers, politicians and monarchs, but have tended to ignore our great composers.

"In the case of Elgar, even though his genius lives on as a memorial through his music, acting as an influence for good, it still seems right to me that we should attempt to honour the memory of a great creative individual within his home town."

Mr David Hawkins, the appeal's secretary, who was born in the house next door to Elgar's Worcester home said: "The money is coming in fits and starts. It is not very impressive at the moment, but I am sure that we shall raise the £25,000. We have had collections in schools, and several anonymous donations of £100."

The Elgar Foundation has given £1,000 and Worcester City and county council £500 each.

The appeal's impressive list of vice-presidents includes Sir Adrian Boult, Sir John Betjeman, Sir Charles Groves, Dr Herbert Howells, Yehudi Menuhin, J. B. Priestley, Sir William Walton and Malcolm Williamson.

Mr Kenneth Potts, the sculptor, at work on the statue of Sir Edward Elgar in his studio at Worcester.

Miss Mary Elgar, the composer's great-niece, is writing to as many contributors as possible. The son of Elgar's milkman sent £1.50; another donation came "from one whose sanity was preserved during the war years by listening to Elgar's masterpieces".

Work on the 7ft statue of Elgar at the age of 54, wearing academic robes, is well advanced. The sculptor, Mr Kenneth Potts, lived for a time in the house in Britannia Square where Elgar first went to school in 1863.

The chosen site is in the High Street near the spot where Elgar's father kept a music shop and where the composer studied scores and instruments as a boy.

"We plan to unveil the statue just before the Three Choirs Festival is held in Worcester in the summer of 1981", Mr Hawkins said.

"Some people may say that Elgar does not need a statue, but we disagree. Shakespeare's plays are on our stages but his statue at Stratford is a visible reminder that a great man was born in the town."

Censors propose new category for sex films

By Martin Huckerby

The British Board of Film Censors is seeking to curtail the freedom of commercial cinema clubs and is calling for all films shown for profit to be brought under its control.

In place of the commercial clubs devoted largely to sex films, the board is suggesting a sort of double X certificate for a limited category of films containing stronger material than is allowed at present; such films could be shown only in certain designated cinemas.

The board's proposals are being considered by the Home Office committee on obscenity and film censorship, under the chairmanship of Professor Bernard Williams, which is expected to report within the next month.

Mr James Ferman, secretary of the board, said the scheme might sound repressive, but it worked well in France and Sweden.

Cinema clubs were simply a loophole. "There is a kind of hypocrisy in the system", he said. "They are not real clubs; membership is almost instant."

Under the board's scheme, a limited circuit of designated cinemas would be able to show somewhat stronger material than at present, provided it was not against the law. That would ensure that neighbourhood cinemas showed neither the sort of sex films seen in Soho cinema clubs nor the art films like Pasolini's *Salo* or Oshima's *Empire of the Senses*, which contained considerable sex and violence.

Monument to a political tumult

Regional report

Ronald Faux

Edinburgh

There is a handsome monument to the political tumult that happened in Scotland between issues 60,472-73 of *The Times*. The former Royal High School for Boys, which almost became a fully fledged assembly for Scotland, stands at the foot of Calton Hill, Edinburgh, redolent with fresh paint and plaster but empty of hope that it will become a debating centre directing the course of Scottish government.

Use of the building has been frozen on the orders of Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, pending the outcome of the all-party talks about the future of Scottish government.

Already Scottish Office staff have reoccupied the offices vacated for Scottish assembly workers in Old St Andrews House, near by. Several hundred feet of carpeting waits to be unrolled or returned to a Civil Service stockpile and there is no expectation that the electronic Hansard machines will ever record a Scottish debate.

The Property Services Agency, responsible for the £3.2m conversion work, reports that the last lick of paint has been applied and that Edinburgh now has another sound public building.

An official of the agency felt convinced that the old school would prove extremely useful and that the conversion cost had been easily justified. The building ranked in the highest category of architectural merit and the rot discovered after work began would have cost more than £1m to put right.

After the Scottish referendum and the general election that squashed the Labour Party's assembly plans, the Conservative Government slipped into the everglades of talks about all-party talks.

Mr Bruce Millan, Opposition spokesman on Scottish affairs, rejected those as being too vague to have value. The Government has replied with a series of options which, Labour complains, are more concerned with government procedure than the devolution of power. The Government rules out a directly elected assembly and the talks continue.

What has positively emerged is a select committee on Scottish affairs which will meet in Edinburgh and put the work of the Scottish Office under scrutiny, one of the original objectives of setting up an assembly.

The likely chairman is Mr Donald Dewar, Labour MP for Glasgow, Carscadden. The Tories will have a majority of seven members to Labour's six and the initial proposal is that there should be no representative from the Liberal Party or the Scottish National Party.

The formula is a compromise intended to reflect the state of the parties in Scotland, where Labour holds 44 seats, the Conservatives 22, the Liberals three and the Scottish National Party two.

The SNP, whose parliamentary group was dramatically cu at the general election, decide at its conference earlier thi year to ignore devolution an head directly for independence. Even so, both the SNP and th Liberals complained strongl last week about their exclusion from the select committee. Both described it as a conspiracy be tween the Government and the Opposition.

Mr James Hamilton, MP for Bothwell and the Labour Scottish whip, explained that the committee would have power to call for papers, summon ministers and inquire where it wished into the machinery of the Scottish Office. It should not be thought an alternative to full Scottish devolution, and they would ensure that the reports from the committee did not sink without trace or debate in Parliament, as the reports from the two previous Scottish select committees had done.

The sound of hollow outrage still rings around Labour headquarters in Glasgow over the defeat of the party's devolution plans and the repeal of the Scotland Act. The select committee will become a bright centre of publicity and could be used to display the Conservative answer to devolution as a pale alternative to the ditched Labour scheme.

Meanwhile, what of the old school on Carlton Hill? A select committee of 13 would have an eerie time rattling round the empty lobbies. The BBC is said to be interested in recording concerts there. A proposal to turn the elegant assembly chamber into a casino was firmly rejected. The SNP believes the building should be placed in aspic "to await better times".

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Rate support grant to stay at 61% as Government puts aside £1,000m for comparability claims

By Christopher Warman and Diana Geddes

The Government has set aside more than £1,000m to cover the cost of comparability pay claims by local authority staff submitted to the Clegg commission and other similar bodies.

That amounts to 6 per cent of total local government expenditure in England and Wales and is in addition to the amount allowed for the expected wage increases for local government staff in the next financial year. Ninety per cent of the two million full-time local government employees will be affected.

The Government's decision on Clegg awards will be announced this Friday, when it reveals its rate support grant for local authorities in England and Wales for the next financial year from April.

The Government will also announce that it has decided to maintain the grant at 61 per cent. That figure has been arrived at only after much argument within the Government.

There were those, led by Treasury officials, who wanted the grant to be reduced. Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education and Science, pressed hard for the grant to remain at 61 per cent.

The decision will come as a relief to local authorities, who feared that the grant might be cut to as low as 57 per cent.

Local authorities were particularly worried that the Government would not meet its fair share of awards to be recommended by the independent Clegg commission on pay comparability.

The Government has decided, however, that it will cover the full 61 per cent of the Clegg and other comparability awards, provided the cost does not exceed 6 per cent of total local government expenditure.

As wages account for 70 per cent of councils' spending, it can be seen that the Government has allowed for 9 per cent on the total wages bill, over and above normal wage increases, for Clegg-type awards. But that 9 per cent will go only to the 90 per cent of employees who are expecting comparability awards, which means in effect that an average increase of 10 per cent has been allowed for.

However, 10 per cent is not the Government's estimate of the likely level of the full Clegg awards. Nearly all the Clegg and other comparability awards are due to be paid in two stages, and only half the expected full awards will fall within the 1980-81 period. It seems likely, therefore, that the Government has assumed that the full Clegg awards will average between 15 and 20 per cent.

That is certain to disappoint and even anger some groups such as the 485,000 school teachers, who are hoping for an award nearer 38 per cent, half to be paid in January, 1980, and half in September, 1980. Other groups awaiting comparability awards include 80,000 further education teachers, 60,000 building craftsmen and 530,000 clerical and administrative staff.

A million manual workers have already received a 9.9 per cent settlement under Clegg, half of which is to be paid from April, 1980.

While local government will be pleased that the Government's 61 per cent grant is maintained, the crucial figure in the rate support grant will be the cash limit set to cover wage and cost inflation.

In estimating a total for local government spending of £19,000m in 1980-81, taking account of the expenditure cuts required, the local authority associations assumed an inflation rate of 17½ per cent. Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, has promised a fair and realistic cash limit, but told local government leaders that the Government was in no way thinking of 17½ per cent as the going rate for inflation next year.

He has given no indication of the figure he will use, but the Government has been considering a rate of about 13 per cent. That means that the Government's grant will certainly fall short of what the local authorities say they need.

The Association of Metropolitan Authorities estimates that if all local government expenditure assumptions were accepted, domestic rate increases next year could average about 21 per cent.

It believes that every £100m of local government spending which is not grant-aided adds about 1.8 per cent to domestic rates. If it is right, there will be some huge rate increases.

For the first time in six years the distribution of the grant favours the shire areas at the expense of the large conurbations, but it is only a minimal change of direction.

The main point is that the trend directing resources at the big cities has now been stopped, but shire counties and districts will not emerge as advantageously as they would wish.

The rate support grant for the coming year will almost certainly be the last using the present complicated distribution formula. Instead a unitary grant is to be introduced, which will enable the Government to identify the spending of individual authorities and to take action against overspending.

All the local authority associations are opposed to the new system because it will inevitably erode local government freedom, but the Government is determined to bring it in.

Mr Tom King, Minister of State for Local Government, told the Commons; "We do not intend to stand by if certain authorities flout government policy without regard to the nation's economic circumstances and at the expense of the great majority of responsible authorities".

The new measure, which may be announced with the rate support grant, is to be included in the Government's huge local government Bill due in the next few weeks.

Past and present Prime Ministers in front of a statue of Lord Attlee that was unveiled in the lobby of the House of Commons yesterday. From left, Mr James Callaghan, Sir Harold Wilson, Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Edward Heath.

IBA to borrow £40m for new TV channel

By Kenneth Gosling

The Independent Broadcasting Authority is to borrow £40m to launch the fourth television channel, expected to be on the air in the autumn of 1982. It will be run by a non-profit-making company operating in a budgetary limit set by the IBA.

In its proposals for the new channel, described as "a preliminary blueprint only," pending the introduction of a Bill in the Commons, the IBA yesterday forecast that the channel's annual budget will be £60-£80m.

That sum will be raised from the independent television programme contractors as a fourth channel subscription. The total sum will be divided between them in about the same proportions as their rental to the IBA.

The IBA recognizes that it will be a considerable time before the new channel is self-supporting. For the health of the IBA's television services, it is hoped that the new channel will add between a fifth and a quarter, in real terms, to the total advertising revenue now earned by the programme contractors.

Lady Plowden, chairman of the IBA, told a press conference that it was hoped that by 1982 between 75 and 80 per cent of the population would be able to receive the fourth channel, 90 per cent in Wales.

The channel would initially provide an evening service. Programmes will be shown at first for 45-50 hours a week, and a wide range of programme supply is to be encouraged.

The IBA has in mind a possible pattern at the start of 15 to 35 per cent of the output coming from independent

Jobs scheme saved from £42m cut

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

The Government has been persuaded not to implement in full the cuts in special employment programmes announced in the Budget, after pressure from its own backbenchers. Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, is expected to announce soon that the Special Temporary Employment Programme is to be saved.

The programme, which provides new jobs of value to the community to young people unemployed for more than six months, and adults out of work for more than a year, was to be cut by £42.2m.

As a result, many projects would have had to close, and further cuts asked for over the next few years were expected to lead to the abolition of the entire programme.

But Mr Prior has accepted that the programme should continue for some years, and projects threatened with closure will continue for 12 weeks. They will go on provided they can show that alternative funding is available or in prospect.

Among the projects saved is a workshop employing mainly former offenders at Wilton, near Salisbury, Wiltshire, an area not regarded as having unemployment difficulties and therefore not eligible for funds under the new rules for the programme.

Pressure by local MPs, magistrates, court officials, the probation service and Mrs Jean Davies, founder and director of the Burnbake Trust, which runs the workshop, has meant that it can carry on at least until January.

"We are a law and order project, and that area is not supposed to be subject to the cuts", Mrs Davies said. "We also meet several other criteria of the Conservative manifesto, because the project is based on self-help and cooperation between voluntary and statutory agencies, and we are providing some of the most difficult long-term unemployed with an incentive to work."

She added: "I think it is irresponsible for governments to spawn projects like this, give them the expectation that they will last for some years and then threaten to cut them off just because their geographical location is inconvenient."

The workshop employs 19 former offenders, several of whom would otherwise have gone to borstal, on jobs connected with printing, picture framing and restoration.

It is approaching commercial viability and Mrs Davies estimates that it would cost a quarter of the cost of borstal training if it was allowed to continue for another 18 months. Six of the seven people who have completed their time at the workshop are employed in steady jobs in the area.

Other projects that may now be saved include self-help initiatives to help unemployed black people in Notting Hill, London, which is no longer regarded by the Government as an inner urban area although it is recognized as an area of high black unemployment; and an employment rehabilitation project for between 80 and 100 mentally ill people in Oxfordshire.

Most projects, in fact, concentrate on the groups most likely to suffer from long-term unemployment because of their age, sex, race, disabilities or criminal records.

The National Council of Social Service, which has been campaigning to stop the cuts to the programme, points out that long-term unemployment is rising and likely to continue growing in the immediate future. The average cost to the taxpayer of employing one man on a Step project is nearly £1,600 a year, compared with £4,590 on social security if he is married with two children, and £5,800 if he returns to prison.

The Step programme began in April, 1978, and provided jobs for 19,700 people in the first year at a gross cost of £10m. But the net cost, after accounting for the savings of employment and supplementary benefit and the revenue from the tax and national insurance contributions paid, was reduced to £4m.

It is not yet clear how much of the proposed cut in the programme will not be made, but it will cost about £18,000 for the Burnbake Trust workshop alone to be continued until January. The full implications are expected when the results of the review for 1980-81 are announced.

Welsh campaigners puzzled

From Tim Jones
Cardiff

A leading Welsh academic said yesterday that he was "bemused" because the police had so far failed to charge him and two colleagues for their part in a raid on a remote transmitting station which blacked out half a million television screens.

Mr Ned Thomas, senior lecturer in English at University College, Aberystwyth, Dr Meredith Evans, of University College, Cardiff, and Dr Pennar Davies, head of a Swansea theological college, switched off the Pencarreg transmitter in Dyfed as part of the campaign for a Welsh language television channel.

Mr Thomas said: "There was no intention on our part to avoid prosecution after we had taken our action." The three men waited at the station for police to arrive after throwing the switches almost a month ago and made full confessions, admitting responsibility.

They are members of the Welsh Language Society, whose campaign for a Welsh channel is becoming increasingly militant. At its recent conference Plaid Cymru decided to urge members to stop paying television licence fees. Last week 20 society members twice disrupted proceedings in the Commons.

According to the society, government plans to divide Welsh language broadcasting between the BBC and independent television is "totally unacceptable and will lead to 10 years of community conflict in Wales".

The society claims that more than a hundred organizations support the principle of a Welsh channel, including the Labour and Liberal parties, Plaid Cymru, BBC Wales and six county councils.

Some Labour MPs admit privately that they support the principle on the ground that it would relegate the Welsh language to a backwater, where it could be overlooked by the vast majority of Welsh people who do not speak the tongue and who are vaguely embarrassed by its refusal to die.

Soldiers face longer tours in Ulster

From Christopher Thomas
Belfast

The Army is to extend to record levels the length of time its soldiers spend on tour in Northern Ireland. It will mean, however, that the troops will be virtually guaranteed that their periods away from the province will be substantially lengthened.

The move comes at a time when the Army is under severe strain. Violence is increasing at an alarming rate and this year is already the worst for killings of security forces since 1973. The trend seems certain to continue, and the spate of bre-bomb attacks last weekend has raised fears that the Provisional IRA is stepping up its bombing activities.

Senior Army officers are seriously worried about the constant upheaval of bringing soldiers back to Northern Ireland, and it is probably an important reason why many men do not sign on for longer terms. The new move is designed to reduce what the Army calls "turbulence" among its soldiers.

The Army tries to keep United Kingdom based units out of Northern Ireland for an average of 14 months at a time, and 18 months in the cces of the British Army on the Rhine troops. During next year the tours will be lengthened in an attempt to keep home-based troops away for two years at a stretch, and three years in the case of BAOR forces.

Under the new arrangement, which will be announced officially soon, the resident battalions, numbering 7,500 men, who live in Army quarters with their wives and families, will stay for two years instead of 18 months. The short-tour soldiers, who live in cramped and often makeshift barracks, will stay for four months and two weeks, an increase of a fortnight.

It is generally assumed that a soldier is at peak effectiveness in the province after two months, so the extra two weeks is seen by senior officers to be particularly valuable.

The greatest strain is undoubtedly felt by the short-tour troops, who are often on duty for 80 to 100 hours a week in gruelling and dangerous conditions. Senior officers will be monitoring the effects of the longer stay and if it is successful the possibility of even longer tours with longer absences cannot be ruled out.

But on present assumptions, a two-year absence is seen to be about right. If there were a three year absence, for example, a high percentage of soldiers coming to Northern Ireland would have no experience of the province.

There are now 5,500 soldiers in the province on four-month tours.

Government determined on change in N Ireland

Mrs Margaret Thatcher has said she is determined to make important changes in the way Northern Ireland is governed, whether or not the Ulster political parties agree, in the hope that political evolution will lead to less violence.

She would not permit those parties to block her political initiative, which envisages the return of some local government powers to the province, Mrs Thatcher said in an interview with The New York Times, the first interview she has granted to a corespondent since becoming Prime Minister.

A consultative document with several options will be laid before Parliament the week after next, the Prime Minister said.

The initiative was announced on October 25, but three of the four parties in Ulster invited to take part in discussions on the subject have indicated that they will refuse. All four want some form of home rule, but each wants a formula unacceptable to the others.

Mrs Thatcher said that she could not permit the status quo to continue indefinitely. If the Roman Catholics and the Protestants said they did not like it and the British Government could not move unless they all agreed, she would impose a decision.

Attempting to reassure the Roman Catholics and their allies, the Prime Minister said that the minorities had to be protected. But she added firmly that direct-rule ministers could not continue taking all the decisions; Ulster was the only part of the United Kingdom where local government decisions were not taken locally.

The topic she addressed with the most fervour, and at the greatest length, was that of strain in Britain's relationship with the European Economic Community. Told that observers were convinced she would not get what she was seeking, the Prime Minister said:

"What we cannot do is pay anything like the amount we are due to pay". Britain was pouring money into one of the wealthiest parts of the world".—New York Times News Service.

IRA 'committed to bring down Lynch Government'

From a Staff Reporter
Belfast

The Provisional IRA yesterday made it clear that apart from trying to get the British out of Ireland it is committed to bringing down the Government of Mr Jack Lynch and installing its own brand of republican scoialism.

The immediate aims of the IRA were set out in an interview published in America in Time magazine with Mr Gerard Adams, aged 31, vice-president of the Provisional Sinn Fein and arguably the leading republican theoretician and strategist. The interview was in Northern Ireland last week.

Mr Adams is quoted as saying: "The main aim of this phase of the struggle is to remove the British from Ulster and to create conditions where the Irish people in a united Ireland can establish social democracy with complete control of their own destiny. The movement wants to see the creation of a decentralized socialist state."

He adds that the term "United Ireland" means that the republic's Government must come down. "The working-class majority from Ulster, Protestant and Catholic, do not simply want to be absorbed in a decadent state.

Mr Adams said there had never been close links between the republican movement and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the Basques, or any other revolutionary group.

New cuts plan will defer crisis, BBC chief says

By Roger Berthoud

Ideas for rephasing capital expenditure that would come near to providing the £2.7m cut in annual expenditure demanded by the Government—but only for the first two years—were yesterday submitted by the acting head of the BBC's external services to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Mr Robert Gregson, who went to the FCO with Mr Gerard Mansell, at present acting director general, said that cutting the capital spending required to maintain audibility would at least postpone the crisis threatened by the Government's original plan to close seven of the BBC's 38 foreign language services.

"Most of us would rather be threatened with starvation over four years than have our head chopped off tomorrow", he said.

But he pointed out that the capital expenditure programme was considered absolutely essential to renew and replace the service's predominantly wartime transmitters; £20m had been earmarked for this by the Labour government for a five-year programme.

That programme had now begun. Sites for new transmitters were being acquired, transmitters ordered, work forces assembled. Some expenditure could be postponed for a year or two; but in the end either some commitments would have to be dropped or the money would have to come from elsewhere, he said.

The capital expenditure deferments suggested to the FCO yesterday should not seriously affect the timetable for modernizing the transmitter station near Penrith, in Cumbria, from where most of the broadcasts to Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union are made. Most of the 19 transmitters there date from 1943.

The Government originally proposed to cut the external service's annual expenditure by £4m.

Both the reduction to £2.7m and the subsequent switch to capital expenditure came after a threatened rebellion by Conservative backbenchers, 115 of whom signed a motion against the cuts.

That was then adopted by the Opposition and tabled for debate today.

It is expected that the Government will accept it as an amendment, pointing out that, with the remains of the capital expenditure programme, the service's overall budget will increase rather than decrease, and thus neatly cutting the ground from under its rebels' feet.

Police inquiry on hospital torture claim

By Alan Hamilton

Nine injured in explosion

Nine people were injured in an explosion at Prestonpans, near Edinburgh, yesterday, while Gas Board workmen were investigating a leak.

The explosion happened outside a café which, with adjoining shops, was extensively damaged, police said. The injured included two Gas Board workmen, passers-by and shop customers.

Four of the injured were taken to Edinburgh Royal Infirmary and the others were treated for shock and cuts

The police said the workmen were investigating a gas leak and the explosion happened when they were lifting a paving stone.

Three remanded in Cheshire murder case

From John Chartres
Sandbach, Cheshire

Three men appeared on double murder charges at a special sitting of magistrates at Sandbach, Cheshire, yesterday after police investigations into the shooting of two married women at the Boarded Barn Cottage, near Congleton, last week.

They were Phillip Derek Jennings, aged 25, of Catherine Street, Elland, West Yorkshire; Stephen Anderson, aged 23, of Mooreend Road, Lockwood, Huddersfield; and Paul Hebel, aged 31, of Aldoney, Almondbury, Huddersfield.

They were all charged jointly with the murders of Mrs Ann Carryer and Mrs Elizabeth Christine Blood at Scholar Green, Cheshire, on November 5. All were remanded in custody until a week today.

Evidence of arrest was given by Det Chief Inspector Arthur Orme of the Crewe division of Cheshire police.

Marilyn Monroe gloves in £1,000 sale of relics

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

The white kid gloves worn by Marilyn Monroe in the film, Some Like it Hot, together with her sequin and ivory fan, precious souvenirs of a twentieth-century dream, were sold at Sotheby's yesterday for £400 (estimated, £70 to £100). They were purchased by the Mayor Gallery, contemporary art dealers, on behalf of a British private collector.

The occasion was the second sale devoted to the Jack Cole collection of books and pictures on the dance. Cole, who died in 1974, was a noted choreographer and dancer; he worked extensively with Marilyn Monroe, being the choreographer of Some Like it Hot, Bus Stop, Gentlemen Prefer Blondes and Let's Make Love.

A collection of Monroe memorabilia, including more than 20 photographs (some signed to Cole), rehearsal schedules, telegrams and press clippings, went to Ian Sayer, a private collector, for £600 (estimate £750 to £1,000).

'Loyalists' doubt UDA plan to form new party

"Loyalist" political groups in Northern Ireland were sceptical last night about plans to establish a political party associated with the Ulster Defence Association with the declared aim of an independent Ulster.

The UDA is the largest loyalist paramilitary organization and the only one that is not illegal. The party, which has not yet been given a name, hope to fight the 1981 spring local elections and to contest the next general election.

The aim is a constitutional settlement which both sides in the province can accept

But the official Unionists in Belfast last night doubted whether a party associated with the UDA would have any chance of success.

Mountbatten trial told of gelignite

From a Staff Reporter
Dublin

Traces of gelignite constituents were found on the clothing of both defendants in the Lord Mountbatten murder trial, it was alleged in the special Criminal Court in Dublin yesterday.

Dr James Donovan, director of the Irish forensic sciences laboratories, told the court that he had found traces of nitroglycerine on the jacket and trousers of Thomas McMahon and on the jacket of Francis McGirl. He had also found traces of ammonium nitrate on the trousers of Mr McMahon; both chemicals were important constituents of gelignite.

Mr McMahon, aged 31, of Carrickmacross, co Monaghan, and Mr McGirl, aged 24, of Ballinamore, co Leitrim, deny murdering Lord Mountbatten on August 27 when his boat exploded outside Mullaghmore harbour, co Sligo.

Nicholas Knatchbull, aged 14, grandson of Lord Mountbatten, and Paul Maxwell, aged 15, a boatboy, from Enniskillen, co Fermanagh, were also killed in the explosion. The Dowager Lady Brabourne, aged 83, mother-in-law of Lord Mountbatten's daughter, Lady Brabourne, died later.

The three judges in the non-jury trial were told by Dr Donovan that traces of nitroglycerine were also found on Lord Mountbatten's sweater, confirming that the explosion had been caused by gelignite.

Det Sergeant Michael Niland said that the bomb probably weighed between four and five pounds.

Inspector Patrick Jordan, of the ballistics section of the Dublin technical bureau, said that the explosion occurred in the centre of the boat, between the cabin and the engine.

Earlier in the trial it was stated that both men were in custody when the bomb exploded. The prosecution alleges that it was detonated by a third party by remote control.

The defendants were stopped at 9.55 on the morning of the murder, less than two hours before the explosion, in a routine police check outside Granard, co Longford, about 50 miles from Mullaghmore. The police said they noticed that Mr McGirl's hands were shaking violently.

Mr McGirl gave his name as Patrick Rehill, of Kilnaleck, co Cavan, a man who the police allege has been involved in bombings. He later gave his correct name and said he had lied because he had borrowed the car from Mr Rehill but was driving it without insurance.

The trial continues today.

MP to raise spy 'rumours' in the Commons

By Arthur Osman

The Prime Minister is expected to be asked at question time in the Commons today about "Maurice" and "Basil", the so-called fourth and fifth men in the spy scandal of the 1950s.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, Conservative member for Birmingham, Selly Oak, said last night that he would ask Mrs Thatcher, as head of the Civil Service, if she was aware of rumours circulating about the subject, or of the role of "Maurice" and "Basil", who apparently had acted as traitors while in the service of Britain.

Mr Baumont-Dark said: "I shall seek to find out whether Mrs Thatcher is satisfied that there no longer exists a situation where this could happen. I think it is desirable that the matter should be ventilated."

WEST EUROPE

Pope calls for use of new methods in tackling world hunger

From Peter Nichols
Rome, Nov 12

The Pope called today for a new model of development for dealing with the problem of hunger in the world which he described as one of the most serious dangers to peace.

He was addressing 1,500 delegates representing 146 countries at the Rome conference of the United Nations Food and Agriculture organization.

Too many people were still suffering from hunger and malnutrition, he said, and the difficulties could no longer be overcome by appeals to sentiment or by sporadic and ineffectual outbursts of indignation. The times were over when the right of everyone to nutrition could be met by gifts of surplus foodstuffs from the rich countries or by programmes of urgent aid formulated to meet exceptional cases.

It is just a month since the Pope addressed the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York and a matter of days since he called together the whole Sacred College of Cardinals to discuss with him the problems of the Roman Catholic Church.

Cardinal Suenens, the retiring Belgian Primate, who was at the meeting of the Sacred College, summed up the principal role of the papacy under Pope John Paul II as being to represent "the voice of the human conscience" and it was distinctly in this role that the Pope spoke today.

He called on the rich countries to face the problem of hunger with rapid and concrete methods. It was necessary to recognize, he said, that hunger in the world did not derive only from unfavourable geographical, climatic and agricultural circumstances, but in many cases from man himself.

He drew attention to the deficiencies in the organization of society which blocked individual enterprise, in certain ideological systems to the point of terror, oppression and inhuman practices. The new model of development had to satisfy the truly fundamental human needs.

Since he came to the throne little more than a year ago the Pope's strongest pleas on the international scene have concerned human rights. His New York speech to the United Nations turned largely on the subject. His premise is that every human being is endowed with a dignity that must never be lessened, impaired or destroyed but must instead be respected and safeguarded, if peace is really to be built up.

In his more detailed list of what constitute the more important of the universally recognized human rights, he placed food immediately after the right to life and the liberty and security of the person.

In his speech today, he attempted to devise a working compromise between planning and individual freedom while rejecting what he described as the artificial needs on which economies were based.

He saw these artificial needs as provoked in part and constantly augmented by publicity, by the requirements of the market and by the positions of force taken up by sectors within the economy, within finance and politics.

It was necessary, he said, to foresee and combat the dangerous consequences for man which could emerge from certain technical and economic solutions. He called for the greatest efforts to be made to obtain the free and responsible participation of men in the decisions taken for growth in the communities in which they lived.

He ended his speech with the statement that the earth belonged to man, to all men, "and so to the generations which will follow us to whom we must hand it over, habitable and fertile".

The Pope's stand on human rights is in strong contrast to the role of a strict disciplinarian which he has adopted within the church.

His continued refusal to allow priests who feel they no longer have a vocation to give up the priesthood is now reaching serious proportions.

The number of requests is estimated at about 5,000 (though some put the figure at 7,000) and one exceptionally gifted cardinal in the Curia is known to be thinking of resigning because of this issue and the Pope's disciplinary methods in general.

The Curia, the church's central administration, as a whole is suffering from the Pope's somewhat haphazard manner of conducting business. He makes surprisingly little use of the administrative machine.

The meeting of the cardinals last week hardly helped the Curia's morale by taking the historic step of publishing the estimated budget deficit of the church administration in the current year. The figure was 17,000m lire (nearly £10m) and the deficit is expected to be larger next year.

The cardinals were asked to make proposals for reducing the deficit and the Curia was a favourite target.

Conservatives on the other hand thought that cuts should be made by doing away with the new bodies which arose from the Vatican Council such as the secretariats for Christian unity.

Plans for stationing 572 new US nuclear weapons in Europe are worrying some governments

Nato faces crucial missile decision

From Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent,
The Hague, Nov 12

The Defence Ministers of 11 Nato nations will meet here tomorrow for secret discussions on one of the most important issues to face the alliance for more than a decade.

The Ministers, all members of Nato's Nuclear Planning Group (NPG), will put before them a proposal to station in West Europe 572 new long-range Theatre Nuclear Weapons, capable of reaching the Soviet Union.

At present Nato has 56 RAF Vulcan bombers and 170 American F111s in this category, but the Vulcans are due to be phased out in a few years' time. Even the F111s depend on airfields which would be vulnerable in wartime and on their ability to penetrate Soviet air defence networks

Strategists have long argued the case for modernizing these Theatre Nuclear Forces (TNF), if only to make the policy of flexible response look more credible. These arguments have been reinforced recently by Russia's introduction of improved TNF and the need to counter them.

The new Soviet TNF are the Backfire supersonic bomber and the SS20 mobile missile, which are augmenting—perhaps in time replacing—older equipment like the Badger and Blinder medium-range bombers and the SS4 and SS5 land-based missiles.

The backfire is not only faster than its predecessors but has one-third greater range than the Blinder and more than twice that of the Badger. The SS20 is not only mobile and therefore less vulnerable, but has three independent warheads, each three times more accurate than the SS5 and six times more so than the SS4.

The Russians have about 60 SS20s and 40 Backfires deployed in the European theatre, as well as 350 of the older bombers and 450 of the SS4 and SS5 missiles. But Nato believes the number of SS20s could rise to 200 and the Backfires to 100 by the mid-1980s, with no guarantees that the older systems would be phased out.

A Nato committee called the High Level Group was formed after the London summit meeting two years ago, and it is responsible for the proposal for a Nato counter-force, which the NPG will discuss tomorrow and Wednesday.

The detailed plan is for 108 Pershing-2 mobile missiles and 464 ground-launched Cruise missiles to be stationed in West Europe within the next three years. The United States would pay for them and man them, though the cost of building bases would be met from Nato's common fund, and the host countries would provide for their security. The cost is expected to be $3,000m (about £1,500m).

The problems arise over where to base the TNF. The Pershing-2 missiles, which have a range of about 1,000 miles, would have to be stationed in West Germany to reach their targets. The Cruise missiles, which can fly more than 1,500 miles, could be sited in Britain, Italy, Holland or Belgium.

While Britain will almost certainly make two or three airfields in East Anglia available, some of the other countries, particularly Holland, have been hesitating. They fear that having American nuclear weapons on their soil would make them prime targets if war broke out.

There is growing confidence in Nato, however, that after this week's meeting of the NPG, a positive decision will be reached at the meetings of the Defence Planning Committee and Nato Council at Brussels next month.

Mr Brezhnev's alarm is interpreted in Nato as a vindication of the TNF programme. The alliance is already thinking about an arms control package, involving TNF, which could form part of the next round of Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (Salt 3).

But Nato wants to negotiate from a position of strength, which is perhaps the most important reason why the TNF proposals should be adopted.

Europe's MPs tired of nomadic life

From David Wood
Strasbourg, Nov 12

The European Parliament, directly elected last June, continues in Strasbourg this week to test its strength against the Council of Ministers in the probably fond hope that it will succeed where the old nominated Parliament failed.

Not least, many of the new MPs, particularly the British Conservatives and Socialists, have reopened the campaign on where the European Parliament should live and have its being.

Tomorrow, Miss Ann Clwyd, Socialist member for Mid and West Wales, will ask Mr Roy Jenkins, the President of the Commission, how much money would be saved annually "if all meetings of all Community institutions were held in Brussels and all staff of all Community institutions were based in that city".

Not that the Belgian Government officially wants the European Parliament. It loyally abides by the horse traders' deal by which Luxembourg shares the plenary sessions. Brussels is content to be the centre for parliamentary committee meetings and the headquarters of some parliamentary groups and the Commission.

The cost of running a nomadic Parliament involving the monthly transport of staff and documents is high. But that is not the only British complaint. Strasbourg, where all plenary sittings must be held until Luxembourg has a new building large enough to sit 410 MPs and their auxiliaries, has nearly every virtue except direct flights from Heathrow.

In fact the 1980 budget appropriations for the Parliament's rent are doubled on 1979. British Conservatives (now a 64-strong group renamed European Democrats) have taken new heart from the legal judgment of Mr Alan Tyrrell, QC, that the Council of Ministers' powers to fix the parliamentary site under Article 216 of the Rome Treaty can be circumvented.

Mr Tyrrell reasons that though the member states of the Nine have the right to fix the sitting place by common accord, the Parliament can choose its own working place. He says in round terms: "We have both the legal right and the moral duty to settle for ourselves a single working place."

While that argument takes its course, the Parliament today began revising its procedure to adjust to its new conformation after direct elections. An electronic system of voting has been recommended by the procedure committee, with Mr Hans Nord, the Parliament's former secretary-General and now a Dutch Liberal MP, as a formidable *rapporteur*.

Michael Hornsby writes from Brussels: Britain's hopes of eliminating or very substantially reducing its large net payment to the EEC budget appear to be fading fast. It now looks unlikely that Mrs Margaret Thatcher will be able to secure the agreement of other EEC member states to reduce the British deficit by more than £300m to £400m at most when the Prime Minister meets fellow heads of government at the EEC summit in Dublin on November 29 and 30.

This compares with the £1,200m deficit which Britain expects to suffer next year, and which Mrs Thatcher has said should be eliminated. West German sources have made clear, however, that even the Bonn Government, which is the most sympathetic to the British case, is not prepared to go beyond relatively minor revisions to the present mechanism for correcting excessive budget contributions.

The German sources say that Bonn is not prepared to imperil its relations with Paris in order to give Mrs Thatcher what she wants. They argue that Britain must look beyond immediate relief to medium-term remedies—such as a larger share of EEC funds to promote the development of backward regions—to improve its budget position.

There is also a strong hint from the Germans that if Mrs Thatcher wants more than this she will have to be prepared to offer concessions in other areas such as fisheries

The European Commission is under intense pressure from most member states (though not Britain) to produce a specific proposal in time for the Dublin summit, and Mr. Roy Jenkins, the Commission President, has accepted that he must do this.

The balance of opinion within the Commission is that a majority is likely to be found only for a solution at the lower end of the Commission's current range of options.

As the Dublin prospects grow bleaker, there are signs that the British are ready to take an increasingly intransigent line in other areas as a way of putting pressure on their Community partners.

Continent decides to clock on together

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, Nov 12

Spurred on partly by the need to save energy, almost the whole of Europe from the Atlantic to the Soviet border is expected to put its clocks forward one hour for the summer months next year.

Most of the continental members of the European Community, Austria, and Greece will synchronize their change-over dates, on April 6 and September 28.

Spain, Sweden and Denmark have still not officially decided but are thought likely to follow suit.

But the March-April and September-October periods will be trying times for airlines, railways, and travellers because Britain, Portugal, Malta and several Eastern European countries will change over on different dates.

Officials in Bonn expect increasing pressure to achieve a standardized European summer time. The biggest step towards common summertime was made quietly last month when East Germany unexpectedly announced that it would put its clocks forward next summer.

Efforts to reach a unified summertime among the EEC countries had been held up by West Germany's reluctance to be on a different time from East Germany. It would have created, the Government felt, a further psychological barrier between the two halves of Germany and cause considerable practical difficulties, particularly in the divided city of Berlin.

As soon as the East German announcement was made the West German Government said it would go ahead with summertime next year.

East Germany's decision appears to have been prompted partly by the fact that Poland, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and Romania have already opted for summertime, although with varying dates for the changeover. Hungary and Yugoslavia are still undecided.

The saving in fuel, which is in fact marginal, is believed to be only one reason for the communist countries' decision. Diplomats in Bonn say that despite ideological differences these countries feel intensely European and are happy to collaborate on smaller non-political matters. One example cited is the adoption of European route numbering on their main highways.

One odd country out will be Switzerland which voted against summertime in a referendum last year and is constitutionally unable to do anything about it for another two or three years. Norway and Finland have no summertime plans as yet, officials say in Bonn.

Press freedom 'diminished in Britain'

By a Staff Reporter

Press freedoms were diminished in Britain while newspapers which had been using and extending them for nearly two centuries were silenced, Sir Denis Hamilton, chairman and editor-in-chief of Times Newspapers Ltd, said in Stockholm last night.

Sir Denis was speaking as chairman of Reuters news agency at a dinner given by the Swedish Government in honour of the Reuters board and the directors of the news agencies of Sweden, Norway, Finland and Denmark.

He said it was newspapers which won the freedoms now enjoyed by broadcasting.

"But newspapers will go down to broadcasting unless they can take advantage of the flexibility and the saving which new ways of printing offer them. There is freedom from unreliability.

"The new deal at Times Newspapers goes a long way towards regulating these problems," Sir Denis added.

Spanish police search for kidnapped politician

From Harry Debelius
Madrid, Nov 12

A nationwide search continued today for a prominent Spanish MP, kidnapped during a weekend of terrorist violence.

Señor Javier Ruperez, chief spokesman of the ruling Centre Democratic Union and a career diplomat, disappeared yesterday morning while on his way from his home in central Madrid to a hotel on the outskirts, where he was to attend the closing session of a congress of delegates from centre parties from Latin America and Spain.

His car was found about 24 hours later hidden in undergrowth in a Madrid park.

The police are working on the theory that the kidnapping was the work of either the Basque separatist organization ETA or some South American extremist movement.

Another leading member of the Centre Democratic union, Señor Gabriel Cisneros, was seriously wounded by gunfire in an unsuccessful ETA kidnapping attempt earlier this year.

In other developments yesterday, two Civil Guard policemen were badly hurt when they were machine-gunned from a passing car outside a police barracks in the Basque town of Salvatierra. A pro-ETA town councillor was shot dead shortly afterwards by police who said he failed to stop his car at a roadblock.

A forest warden was shot dead by suspected Basque activists today in a bar in Oyarzun, near San Sebastian.

In Santander, a gang raided the workshop of a company supplying materials for a controversial nuclear power plant at Lemoniz, near Bilbao. They set off explosive charges which caused damage estimated at £2.9m.

Four divers drown

Marseilles, Nov 12.—Four divers, three Frenchmen and an African from the Ivory Coast, drowned while carrying out oil prospecting work off Ghana over the weekend

Strike stops flights

Paris, November 12 — Air traffic has been seriously disrupted at Paris-Orly airport by a traffic controllers' strike. Several dozen take-offs and landings have been cancelled.

WEST EUROPE

Jenkins warning to Mrs Thatcher on tactics at Dublin

om Michael Hornsby
ussels, Nov 12

Mrs Margaret Thatcher would making a mistake if she were pursue a strategy of "all or othing" when she goes to the EC summit meeting in Dublin the end of this month to ek the help of other memberates in cutting back Britain's gh net payments to the Community budget.

This is the advice given to e Prime Minister by Mr Roy nkins, the President of the uropean Commission, which st week suggested a number refund mechanisms that ould offset more than two hirds of Britain's expected budet deficit in 1980 of nearly 1,200m. Member-states have et to discuss these ideas.

"The British problem is rgent, and the Government is nderstandably looking for a uick solution", Mr Jenkins old *The Times* in an exclusive nterview. "It is desirable that s much as possible should be one at Dublin, but the way in hich the Community works neans that it is sometimes a nistake to insist on all or nothng at one particular meeting."

Mr Jenkins's remarks come mid reports that Mrs Thatcher s still determined to press for greement in Dublin on bringng Britain's budget payments nd receipts into "broad alance", and will not be preared to settle for much less, oth on the ground of justice nd because of domestic poliical pressure, particularly from he Labour Party.

The warning from Mr Jenkins comes after an even more explicit private admonition last month from the West Germans to Mrs Thatcher that if she insists on an immediate reduction of the British deficit to zero she will isolate herself in Dublin, and force West Germany to side with France in opposing Britain.

Mr Jenkins made clear, however, that he believed Mrs Thatcher was justified in looking for a substantial measure of relief now and could not be expected to wait until changes in the Community's spending priorities and other longer-term factors brought about a more favourable budget balance for Britain.

"There has to be a solution, or at least an approach to a solution, made within existing circumstances", Mr Jenkins said. "We hope to change some of those circumstances, such as the predominance of agricultural expenditure, which is not helpful to Britain, in the future. But that is not something we are going to be able to do at Dublin.

"Very considerable progress has been made over the past few months in achieving the appreciation of the other eight countries that there really is a British problem, and a fairly major one."

Mr Jenkins allowed, however, that "some of them appreciate it more than others"—an apparent reference to the work still to be done in convincing, for example, the French and the Danes.

Despite accusations from some quarters of a loss of nerve by the Commission, Mr Jenkins was adamant that he and his colleagues had been right not to put forward a specific proposal at this stage and to limit themselves instead to suggesting a range of possible methods for meeting the British difficulty.

There had first to be "some idea of the sums of money you can approach agreement on". Mr Jenkins argued. He was perfectly certain that "if we had put forward one single solution with a sum of money attached to it a majority (in the European Parliament and among member-states) would have been found to oppose it for one reason or another".

It was "much better that we should see the possible lines of a solution, and the methods of achieving it, and also get some idea of what is a realistic approach to a settlement", Mr Jenkins believed. "We would then be prepared to make a proposition." The aim would be to meet British objectives as fast as possible without doing damage to Community policies.

The Commission, Mr Jenkins said, intended to make a more specific proposal in time for the Dublin summit. Had it done so an eerlier, it would have "played its important card too early and not have been able to perform its role of trying to get a sensible and fair solution out of the European Council (summit) in Dublin.".

Mr Jenkins also had some words of caution for those countries—such as Britain and West Germany—which have threatened to veto any increase in EEC budget revenue, when present resources run out, as a way of forcing the rest of the EEC to agree to changes in spending priorities, with less emphasis being put in particular on agriculture.

It was probably inevitable, Mr Jenkins thought, that some governments would "hold the line for a time" on any revenue increase until they could see "substantial progress towards a better balance of budgetary expenditure". But it would be "highly damaging for the development of the Community to stick for a long period to the one per cent ceiling".

(The reference here was to the one per cent limit on the fraction of value-added tax, levied on a common base, that member-states are required to hand over to Brussels to finance the Community budget. On current spending trends, that limit will certainly be reached in 1981 and can only be raised by unanimous decision of member governments.)

Putting a ceiling on budget revenue, Mr Jenkins suggested, would be rather like letting a room fill with water until you could not put any more in. That was certainly one way of controlling water consumption, but you tended to drown everyone in the room in the process.

Agricultural spending might be curbed, but many other desirable policies could be destroyed as well.

"I have absolutely no doubt that if the Community is to develop effectively, and to put muscle behind a whole range of Community policies, and not merely those most often cited, such as the social and regional funds, but also industrial and energy policy, we will need over a period far more resources than the 1 per cent can give us."

Mr Jenkins also saw a particular danger for Britain in resisting too rigidly any increase in the revenue base. The cost of any mechanism to offset the British deficit would almost certainly have to be charged to the Community budget. So the British could end up denying the EEC the funds needed to give them the financial help they were themselves asking for, which would seem somewhat self-condradictory.

Mr Jenkins hoped that member-states would have the statesmanship to agree on a phased reduction of the percentage of the budget going on agriculture along lines suggested by the Italians, instead of simply waiting for budget revenue to hit the 1 per cent VAT ceiling. Even without current British problems, it would be essential to reduce the excessive weight of agriculture and the food surpluses for the sake of sensible European integration.

Casting an eye over Britain's troubled relations with its EEC partners, whether on the budget, on fisheries or agriculture, Mr Jenkins drew a general lesson:

"We are very inclined in Britain not to be in at the beginning, generally through our own fault, and then to complain later — on the actual merits of the issue then sometimes with a certain amount of legitimacy—that the policy, the institution or the system is not tailor-made to our needs."

He added: "We really are asking for difficulties of this sort if we miss the opportunity to be in at the formative stage."

It was "a great pity and a great mistake" that Britain, by not playing a full part in the setting-up of the new European Monetary System last March, had for the third time missed being "in at the creation" as earlier at the time of the establishment of the Coal and Steel Community and then of the EEC itself.

He hoped for "the earliest possible favourable decision" by Britain on EMS membership and could no longer see any sensible arguments for sterling staying outside. Exchange rates could be adjusted periodically within the system, "so fears about the pound's being locked in at an unrealistic rate were little more than an excuse for postponing a decision."

Mr Jenkins was confident that over time—say five to 10 years—currency stability would be seen to have contributed substantially to a recovery of economic growth in the EEC. The EMS was still too young to permit a decisive judgment about its efficacy, but it was a fact that this year the EEC had fared better than the United States economically for the first time in several years.

It was important, however, that the EEC should not rest content with the EMS arrangements, but press on over a reasonable period of time to the goal of full monetary union. Mr Jenkins hoped that the budget problem could be got out of the way and the debate on the next stage of the EMS "reactivated fairly early in 1980".

Another absolutely crucial challenge the EEC had to meet was to "break the link between petroleum consumption and economic growth" and to keep pace with the accelerating revolution in computer and microprocessing technology.

There was a real danger otherwise that the EEC would be squeezed between the emergent industries of the developing world and the advanced economies of Japan and America, and end up as "second-class industrial citizens" in the 1990s.

Mr Macmillan wins award

From Our Correspondent
Athens, Nov 12

The Alexander Onassis Foundation has announced the award of two new international prizes of \$100,000 (£50,000) each, to Mme Simone Veil, the French President of the European Parliament, and to Mr Harold Macmillan, the former Prime Minister, as president of the British Acropolis Appeal Committee.

The announcement was made by Mr Michael Stassinopoulos, the former Greek President and chairman of the 15-member international committee which met in Athens over the weekend.

The Athens prize was awarded to the European Parliament, in the person of Mme Veil, in recognition of "the role played by the European Community in promoting mutual understanding between peoples, and the respect of human dignity".

The Olympia prize was given to the British Acropolis Appeal Committee, in the person of Mr Macmillan.

OVERSEAS

Kampuchean refugee's silent grief for child

From Peter Hazelhurst
Phang Nam Ron, on the border of Kampuchea

Hun Samay, once an accountant in Phnom Penh, and his wife staggered across the Kampuchean border this morning looking like inmates of Auschwitz.

They came through the jungle, like two skeletons covered with skin, and in his arms Mr Hun carried the dwarf-like form of Thirith, the couple's four-year-old daughter.

Caught up in the vicious fighting between Khmer Rouge forces and Vietnam, Mr Hun and his family attempted to cross the border near the outpost of Phang Nam Ron last week. But they turned back when Mr Hun's sister and her husband were blown to pieces by a land mine.

They reached safety today but they were still to suffer a final trial. Four years of starvation and disease had taken their toll and two hours after the couple's arrival in Thailand their daughter died in a Red Cross hospital as doctors attempted to insert an intravenous drip into her shrivelled veins.

There were no tears as the hollow-eyed couple watched the death squad in the refugee camp carry their daughter's body away in a blanket. Four years of horror had erased their ability to weep. But the pain was there in their eyes.

If one is to grasp the horrific events which have driven nearly 300,000 Kampuchean refugees to the border of Thailand during the past 10 months, then that story of brutality and tragedy might well be told through the eyes of one luckless man and his wife.

Like many of the other 30,000 Kampucheans in the Thai refugee camp at Sa Keao, Mr Hun's ordeal began when Phnom Penh fell to the Pol Pot forces in April, 1975.

Mr Hun is too weak to provide a full and coherent account of his life during the past four and a half years. But his sketchy story reveals how the average Kampuchean, who lived through the brutal reign of the Pol Pot regime, is now caught in the bitter fighting between the protegés of two contending communist armies.

The former accountant's story might be summed up in the recent words of Mr Lee Kuan Yew, Singapore's Prime Minister: "I fear for the Kampucheans as a people. Hundreds of thousands will die through starvation and disease. Tens of thousands will die in pacification. The Chinese are prepared to fight to the last Kampuchean and the Soviets will fight to the last Vietnamese".

Mr Hun's tribulations began in April, 1975, when the Khmer Rouge bounded him and his pregnant wife out of Phnom Penh. In the countryside he was forced to work 12 hours a day on an irrigation project in the province of Kompong Speu. There was no medicine and little food. Hunger and fear haunted the couple.

Posing as a former taxi driver, Mr Hun watched the Khmer Rouge systematically butcher any Kampuchean with an education or professional skills. He was later informed that his elder brother had been executed for stealing an extra ration of food.

"We ate leaves, roots and mice to survive. I was beaten and whipped once for asking for more food when my daughter was born, Mr Hun said.

After one year conditions seemed to improve. The work squads were given more food. But people continued to die of malaria and disease. There were no doctors and no medicine.

The face of defeat: A young mother holding the body of her dead baby in a Thai refugee camp.

Then in January last year, Vietnam marched into Phnom Penh. Within days of the capture of the capital, the Khmer Rouge forced Mr Hun, his family and 150 workers to begin a march westwards through the jungles towards the Thai border, away from the Vietnamese advance.

"People who were too weak were left to die in the jungle. We ate berries, leaves, anything to keep alive. At one stage I saw people cutting up a corpse, he said.

They were herded through the jungles for four months. In June, after iVetnamese gunners shelled their camp, killing 58 people and 10 Khmer Rouge soldiers, the Pol Pot forces melted into the night and left the starving group to fend for themselves.

By now Mr Hun's daughter was very ill with malaria and the couple decided to march north-west, in an attempt to reach his parent's village near the town of Battambang.

"The journey took a long time because my daughter was sick. We had to find food for her. In one village a doctor, who was hiding, gave us some medicine. But I arrived in my home village in September to find that my parents had been killed in the fighting between the Vietnamese forces and the Khmer Rouge.

"My sister and her husband also arrived there. They were also hungry and sick. It was difficult to get food and we decided to head for Thailand. My country had destroyed its own people", Mr Hun said, with his hollow eyes staring listlessly at his feet.

There are 30,000 other refugees like Mr Hun in a new camp at Sa Keao, 45 miles west of the Kampuchean border. There are another 200,000 refugees massing on the borders and the Thais fear that they will cross the frontier when Vietnam is expected to step up its offensive against the Khmer Rouge at the onset of the dry season in the next few weeks.

Most of the refugees in Thailand are now being moved away from the border to prevent Khmer Rouge infiltrators from using the camps as safe havens to attack Vietnamese border patrols.

The camp is silent. People seldom talk. They sit, haunched up on the ground, staring wide-eyed at some nameless horror. They are gaunt and thin. A few plastic sheets and a little cloth provide their shelter.

The signs of malnutrition and disease are everywhere and the stench is unbearable. Babies look like shrivelled corpses. In many cases people are too weak to attend to their toilet and they are forced to defecate on the ground next to their shelter. The death squad moves silently through the camp using a pole and a hammock to transport the dead to a huge pit.

Dr Jacob Adler, the leader of a team of volunteers from the Israeli Red Cross, says that 1100 refugees have already been admitted to the camp's makeshift hospital since it was opened two weeks ago.

"About 25 or 30 are dying every day. The problem is they came over the border in such a pitiful condition. In many cases they are too weak to come to the hospital or they are unaware that it exists. Most of them are also suffering from a type of malaria which is resistant to drugs.

Dr Anne Townsend, a British missionary, is, like her Israeli colleague, more worried that the camp might be threatened by an epidemic of meningitis.

"We have already detected cases of meningococal meningitis. With these crowded conditions I just do not know how we will cope if an epidemic breaks out," Dr Townsend says.

Pathan guerrillas suffer decisive defeat by pro-Soviet Afghan forces

From Stephen Taylor
Rawalpindi, Nov 12

The Pathan tribesmen waging guerrilla war in the eastern provinces of Afghanistan have been decisively defeated in an offensive launched by the Kabul regime to dislodge them from their mountain strongholds before the onset of winter.

The insurgents, devout Muslim tribesmen implacably opposed to the Moscow-backed Government of President Hafizullah Amin, have been routed in Paktia province and forced to retreat in Logar province, both of which are south of Kabul.

Estimates of the number of rebels killed vary between 800 and 1,200. It is their most severe reverse in the year-old war. Government casualties are believed to have been even heavier.

The success of the offensive has provided Afghanistan's beleaguered forces with a vital breathing space in the war and President Amin with a victory with which to bolster support for his fragile regime.

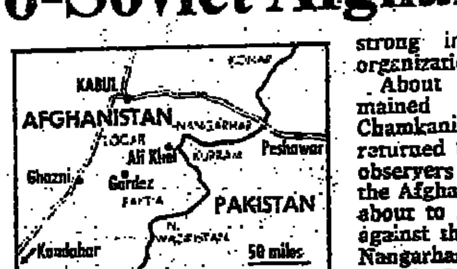
It could not have come at a better time for him, coinciding as it did with a display of military strength in Kabul last week to mark the anniversary of the Russian revolution.

Between 40,000 and 80,000 refugees, fleeing the fighting, have poured over the mountains into Pakistan in the past two weeks and encamped in the North-West Frontier Provinces of Kurram and North Waziristan, severely straining the already extended resources of the Pakistan Government and relief organizations.

There were 220,000 Afghan refugees registered in Pakistan before the offensive.

The insurgent groups based in the Pakistan border town of Peshawar are hastily attempting to regroup and launch a coordinated counterattack before winter sets in and further erodes the initiative that they have held for most of the war.

But it may be too late. Snow is starting to fall in the mountains and without control of the



surroundings to allow passage of supplies and reinforcements the tribesmen may soon have to come down.

The offensive, which started about three weeks ago, has regained for the Government more than two-thirds of the area in Paktia which was under guerrilla control. The strategically important town of Gardez, which guards Ghazni and the Kabul-Kandahar road and was under almost continuous siege in recent months, has been relieved and two towns reoccupied.

An armoured column consisting of about 100 Soviet T54 and T62 tanks, about 100 armoured personnel carriers and Afghan Army infantry, supported from the air by helicopter gunships, converged on Gardez from the road running west to Ghazni. The column then divided into two and swept north-east, taking two towns.

According to some reports the Government forces also seized the towns of Khwaja Kuram and Sikaram near the Pakistan border. Fighting was particularly intense around Ali Khel, where the rebels sustained most of their casualties.

The helicopter gunships, which are equipped with twin 16mm guns, rockets and a heavy machine-gun, scoured the surrounding mountains and were devastatingly effective against the tribesmen, many of whom are still armed with bolt-action Lee Enfield rifles.

A guerrilla leader said: "The gunships are killing us. We have no way to counter them."

Western diplomats are confident that Russians were at the helm of the gunships and some of the tanks and there are strong indications of Soviet organization and command.

About 20 tanks have remained in Ali Khel and Chamkani. The remainder have returned to Kabul and military observers here speculate that the Afghan Government may be about to launch another thrust against the rebels, in Konar or Nangarhar provinces east of Kabul. It may be aimed at Asmar in Konar where the guerrillas gained a notable victory in August.

After a very shaky first six weeks in office, having overthrown Mr Nur Mohammed Taraki in a coup on September 14, President Amin's position now looks more secure. The guerrillas still control most of the territory to the west, north and east of Kabul but the noose that loosely encircled the capital has been broken.

The cracks that had appeared in Kabul's relations with Moscow seem for the moment to have been smoothed over. Mr Alexander Pusanov, the Soviet Ambassador, who was distrusted by President Amin because of events leading up to the coup, was replaced last week by Mr Fikryat Tabeyev, the former party chief of the Tatar Republic and a Muslim.

The large influx of new refugees has caught relief workers in Pakistan unprepared, while they are struggling to cope with the difficulties of distributing aid to the 220,000 refugees already registered. They are scattered along a large section of the mountainous frontier with Afghanistan.

Priority in a United Nations relief programme costing £7.5m is being given to idstributing tents and blankets in the higher areas. No food or medical supplies have yet reached the refugees who are surviving on an allowance of four rupees (20p) a day from the Pakistan Government.

The new refugees are living in the open mainly round the towns of Parachinar and Miram Shah in Pakistan. Relief workers have no accurate figures of their numbers and are still assessing what effect they will on the programme.

'Welcome back' editorial in New York Times

From Our Own Correspondent
New York, Nov 12

The return of *The Times* was welcomed in an editorial in *The New York Times* yesterday. Headed "Alive Again", it noted that "to journalists, it sounded like a death in the family" when the owners talked of closing *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*.

It went on: "*The Times* is, of course, the organ of the British establishment, read by top people who relish crossword puzzles and whimsical letters from retired Oxbridge dons. But what truly distinguishes the paper is its stubborn civility, its reflectiveness and its resistance to that curse of the age, hyperbole. . . .

"In a shrill world, *The Times* has sustained a conversational tone—it has stressed information at the expense of effect, and authority more than splash. The feelings on both sides of the Atlantic will be relief, and welcome".

Family saved after whale sinks yacht

Auckland, November 12.—An Auckland family of four was rescued from the Tasman sea today after a whale sank their yacht. Mr and Mrs Frank Innes-Jones, their son Rex, aged 24, and daughter Rosemary, aged 23, spent a night in rubber dinghies before they were sighted.—Reuter.

Patriotic Front increases forces inside Rhodesia

From Nicholas Ashford
Salisbury, Nov 12

As the Lancaster House talks near a conclusion, there are signs that both wings of the Patriotic Front are increasing significantly the size of their guerrilla armies inside Zimbabwe Rhodesia.

Informed sources in Salisbury say there are now more than 15,000 armed guerrillas in the country, and more are coming in almost every day. This is an increase of more than 3,000 in the last three to four months which recent raids into Zambia and Mozambique have not been able to stem.

The drive to increase the size of the guerrilla presence inside the country is linked to the ceasefire agreement which the three parties at the Lancaster House talks—the Patriotic Front, the Salisbury Government and the British—are expected to sign soon.

The Patriotic Front leaders realize the necessity for having the maximum number of men in the country by the time the ceasefire comes, in order to substantiate their claims to be operating in most parts of the country.

In the unlikely event of the London talks failing, the expanded guerrilla armies would be in a strong position to step up the war against the forces loyal to Bishop Abel Muzorewa's Government. The rainy season just beginning would be an additional advantage to the guerrillas.

The heaviest infiltration in recent weeks has been across the Zambezi river from Zambia by members of Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary Army (Zipra). Zipra, which operates predominantly in the west of the country, has always been heavily outnumbered by guerrillas belonging to Mr Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army (Zanla).

Even now there are believed to be only about 3,000 Zipra guerrillas in the country, compared with 12,000 members of Zanla. Zanla has been making inroads into what was traditionally considered Zipra territory, notably in the region to the south and west of Bulawayo.

The security forces have had some success in intercepting these groups. Recently they killed 34 guerrillas operating in a single group. But the security forces say most of the guerrilla reinforcements are careful to avoid any contact and have been trying to penetrate deeper into the country.

On the Government side, there has been an acceleration of recruitment of young Africans into the ranks of the security force auxiliaries, known as the "Pfumo Revanhu". They are believed to number about 12,000 armed men, but there are plans to increase this to 20,000 by next year.

Arab unrest after Shaka arrest threatens talks

From Christopher Walker
Nablus, Nov 12

Widespread unrest among the 700,000 Arabs living in the occupied West Bank is posing an unexpected threat to the slow-moving negotiation over Palestinian autonomy between Israel and Egypt.

It comes after the arrest on Sunday of Mr Bassam Shaka, the mayor of Nablus, for alleged pro-terrorist statements and subsequent attempts by the Israeli authorities to have him deported to Jordan. There has already been critical comment in the semi-official Cairo press.

For the second day running shops and offices in Nablus, the largest West Bank town, remained shut in protest against the arrest. The members of the nine-strong council have already tendered their resignations. Tension among many of the 80,000 inhabitants was judged by local observers to be at a level not seen since the signing of the Camp David agreement.

Israeli troops patrolled the streets on foot and in an assortment of armoured vehicles. Two soldiers wielding heavy wooden riot sticks charged a crowd of teenage Arab schoolgirls who had been shouting abuse after their school closed early as part of the protest.

Elsewhere in the town crowds of angry workers and students gathered in Nasser square where an Arab newspaper containing an account of the arrest had been pinned to a wall. Although there was stone throwing between youths and soldiers there was no full-scale violence.

Commercial protest strikes were also staged in two other West Bank towns and at Bir Zeit university students staged a sit-in. All 21 elected mayors on the West Bank have threatened to resign if the deportation order against Mr Shaka is not withdrawn.

In Jerusalem today lawyers representing Mr Shaka failed to win an order from the Israeli supreme court to have him released from jail. More legal action against the deportation order will begin later this week and tomorrow the mayor of Gaza, Mr Rashad Sawa, will visit the Israeli defence Minister, Mr Ezer Weizman in an effort to persuade the government to reverse its decision.

The anger of the West Bank leaders appears to have been provoked in almost equal measure by the deportation order itself and by the way in which it came about. Israeli officials claim that the action was taken because Mr Shaka expressed verbal support for the Palestinian terrorists who attacked a bus near Tel Aviv last year, killing 34 Israelis.

The remarks were said to have been made last week during a private conversation between Mr Shaka and Major-General Danny Matt, the co-ordinator of military operations in the occupied territories.

An account of the mayor's remarks was quickly leaked to the government-controlled Israeli broadcasting service.

Western diplomatic observers are puzzled why the Israelis should have chosen the present delicate stage in the negotiations to take action against Mr Shaka, whose sympathies toward the Palestine Liberation Organization and whose political activities have repeatedly infuriated the military authorities since his election in April, 1976.

In Nablus today councillors were adamant that no local resident would be prepared to take Mr Shaka's place.

U S-educated revolutionaries accuse Mr Carter

Iranian insults in American accent

From Robert Fisk
Tehran, Nov 12

A student at Tehran's Polytechnic University was explaining his nation's contempt for the United States. Behind him, the loudspeaker above the occupied American Embassy chanted "Yankee go home" but the man's words were clearly audible and he spoke English with an almost perfect deep south Alabama accent.

He had spent more than a year there during the Shah's rule after being twice imprisoned by Savak, the Iranian secret police. "You wanna know why we want the damned Shah?" he asked. "Well, I tell you—it's 'cos that man stole 50 billion dollars from Iran."

An Iranian Air Force private wandered up to join our conversation. "That bastard", he said, referring to the Shah, "staged the biggest heist in history." The Airman's accent sounded like East Side New York. In a curious way, it said more about Iran's relationship with America than any amount of political explanation, or rhetoric.

Never before, it seems, have so many revolutionaries lived, worked or been educated in the country which they now hold responsible for so many of their past troubles.

During the Shah's rule, there were sometimes half a million Iranians in the United States. Many were at American universities or colleges; some were escaping from the Shah's regime. Many thousands more were undergoing military training in the United States. One of the perks available to army officers was a regular free trip to New York on an Iranian Air Force jet aircraft.

Dr Ebrahim Yazdi, who has just resigned as Iranian Foreign Minister, worked for 17 years as a doctor in America, associating with Iranian students opposed to the Shah.

Dr Mostafa Chamran, who was appointed Deputy Prime Minister in July this year, helped to set up the Islamic Students' Association in the United States in 1962 together with Dr Yazdi and Mr Sadeq Qotbzadeh, who is likely to become Iran's next Minister of National Guidance.

An Iranian girl who studied journalism in New York explained that, having experienced the fruits of American democracy, Iranians wanted to know why Americans supported the Shah's regime when it opposed individual freedom and dissent.

"In the United States", she said, "we learnt all about liberty and the freedom to say what you wanted to say. Yet America went on propping up the Shah and forcing him to squander Iran's wealth on arms. Why did it do that? Why was America a democracy at home and a dictator abroad?"

Yet there is a contradiction amid the hatred here of the American Government and President Carter. The fact that Mr Carter, whose campaign for human rights was much publicized in Iran, should have continued to honour America's political commitment to the Shah before the revolution—in however tentative a way—is regarded as hypocrisy.

Yet the Carter Administration was opposed to the anti-democratic nature of the Shah's regime and, within the limits of diplomacy, Mr Carter urged the Iranian monarch to liberalize his country.

Iranians argue that his words were ambiguous, and it is indeed difficult to read some of Mr Carter's statements during the last months of the Shah's regime without sensing a certain naivety in the American President.

Yet they scarcely deserve the slogans round the American Embassy which denounce the American President as a war-monger and demand his death. The Shah was admitted to the United States for hospital treatment.

Mr Carter is not responsible for setting up the Shah's regime—indeed, Mr Carter's domestic critics would claim he was partly responsible for the Shah's overthrow—and can hardly be called to account for the involvement of the Central Intelligence Agency in the coup that toppled Dr Mossadegh, the former Prime Minister in 1953, an event which might have occurred only this year if the condemnation of the United States was taken at face value.

Therein, perhaps, lies an intriguing clue to Iran's contempt for the American Government. For Iranian criticism—justified or not—often seems directed against the actions of previous American administrations: to the Eisenhower, or Kennedy, or Nixon governments.

The students, when they shout abuse against Mr Carter, really appear to be voicing sentiments that they once felt about the policies of Mr Nixon or Dr Henry Kissinger

The ruling clergy and the students who have been occupying the American Embassy, and the somewhat older men who appear alongside their more academic bretheren on such occasions, seem to have given little thought to the fact that Mr Carter's future political career could well depend on the outcome of the embassy siege: or to the possibility that Mr Edward Kennedy or Mr Ronald Reagan might take a less tolerant interest in world affairs if one of them entered the White House.

Doctors see chance of Shah's recovery

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, November 12

Although the deposed Shah of Iran is seriously ill, his life appears to be in no immediate danger. This is the view of American medical specialists familiar with the ailments diagnosed by doctors treating the Shah in New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Centre.

The Shah was admitted for treatment on October 22 suffering from jaundice which he had contracted during his exile in Mexico. His doctors diagnosed the immediate problem as a blockage of the bile duct and two days later removed several small gallstones and his gall bladder.

They also began tests for treatment of a virulent type of cancer known as histiocytic lymphoma which the Shah has disclosed was first detected six years ago. Another gallstone has since been detected

Radiation treatment for the cancer was started last week and a course of chemotherapy is expected when the Shah is sufficiently fit.

According to Dr Philip Schein, chief cancer specialist at Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, histiocytic lymphoma, which affects the lymph system, is one of the most aggressive forms of the disease. Until fairly recently the median survival of patients was between six and nine months.

But new types of chemotherapy offer a reasonable chance of what amounts to a cure in 40 to 60 per cent of cases if the disease is caught early enough.

The Shah's case, however, is complicated by the fact that the lymphoma has been treated and kept under control for six years. This may have made the diseased cells more resistant to chemotherapy

هكذا من الاصل


You can't beat the Times.
New York in 4 hours.
Washington in 4 hours 10 mins.
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Tensions grow in East Africa as relations between Kenya and post-Amin Uganda worsen

om Nicholas Ashford
mpala

There is growing concern nong Western diplomats in st Africa over the deteriora-n in relations between Kenya, lwark of Western interests the region, and the new gandan Government headed President Godfrey Binaisa.

The overthrow of the tyran-al President Idi Amin last ril, far from stabilizing the uation, appears to be creat-g new tensions in East Africa, opes that President Amin's wnfall could lead to a revival the defunct East African mmunity (Kenya, Uganda and nzania) seem to have been shed, at least for the fore-eable future.

President Binaisa of Uganda: Nobody's puppet.

Relations between Kenya and ganda began their slide into ispicion and acrimony with ie removal from office of resident Yusuf Lule—a pro-estern, pro-Kenyan moderate ho was nominated to head the ganda National Liberation ront (UNLF) government in ampala after the overthrow of resident Amin—and his re-lacement in June by President inaisa.

The Kenyans claim they de-ected the hand of their arch-nemy, President Julius yerere of Tanzania, behind Mr ule's removal. They believe he Tanzanian leader, whose orces brought about President min's overthrow and are still esponsible for maintaining ecurity inside Uganda, is deter-nined to implant Tanzania's rand of socialism in Uganda, nd that Mr Lule was equally etermined not to be dictated o by President Nyerere.

Furthermore, the Kenyans dentified President Binaisa not nly as being a leftist but also s a "front" for ex-President Milton Obote, who has been living in Dar es Salaam as President Nyerere's guest since his overthrow by General Amin in 1971. Kenyans have devel-oped exaggerated fears about the possibility of ex-President Obote's return to Uganda; a move Nairobi feels would not only result in the complete socialization of Uganda but could also lead to civil conflict between pro-Obote and anti-Obote factions.

However, since he took over four months ago President Binaisa has sought to demon-strate that he is neither Presi-dent Nyerere's nor Mr Obote's puppet. Although he cannot ignore his Government's depen-dence on Tanzania—particu-larly the 20,000 Tanzanian soldiers based in Uganda—he has tried to distance himself from the Tanzanian leader.

President Nyerere's advice is listened to but not necessarily heeded, and President Binaisa has made it clear that neither Mr Obote nor anyone else will take over the presidency until general elections are held in 1981. "We are definitely not taking our cue from Tanzania," says Professor Yash Tandon, a leading policy-maker in the UNLF.

The Kenyans do not seem to be impressed. A series of inci-dents—such as the temporary seizure in Uganda of 38 Kenyan lorries on their way to southern Sudan, the sudden closure of Uganda's borders during the recent currency change-over, and Uganda's announced inten-tion to develop a new route to the coast through Tanzania, in order to reduce its dependence on the railway line to the Kenyan port of Mombasa—have merely fuelled their suspicion.

The Ugandans say they are disappointed but not really surprised by Kenya's hostility towards their Government. They claim the Kenyans had a vested interest in seeing Presi-dent Amin remain in power for as long as possible—first, because he was bitterly opposed to President Nyerere and, second, because Kenya's eco-nomy benefited at the expense of Uganda's once prosperous but now badly neglected economy.

Prominent Ugandans, includ-ing President Binaisa himself, have accused "Kenyans in high places" of involvement in smuggling coffee out of Uganda. They also blame Kenya for "not lifting a finger" to prevent Ugandans from being slaughtered by President Amin. In fact, Kenya continued to allow supplies and Libyan troop reinforcements to reach Presi-dent Amin right to the bitter end of the war.

The Kenyans also proved to be less than hospitable hosts to the thousands of Ugandans who sought refuge from President Amin's massacres. Some were returned to Uganda and certain death while others were con-stantly harassed by the Kenyan police. Kenya also prevented some Ugandan exiled leaders from attending the conference in Moshi, Tanzania, last March which led to the establishment of the UNLF coalition which took over from President Amin.

"I think it is criminally absurd of Kenya to take such a negative attitude towards Uganda", said a Western dip-lomat in Kampala. "If it per-sists with its present attitude, Kenya will be the main sufferer as it will have enemies not only in Somalia on its northern bor-der and Tanzania in the south, but also in Uganda to the east as well."

It is possible that Kenya will modify its attitude towards Uganda once President Moi has reshuffled his Cabinet after last week's Kenyan elections.

World View: By Arrigo Levi, who will contribute regular articles on international affairs

More détente, not less, could be a remedy for its inadequacy as a peace strategy

Four months have passed since the Vienna summit, where America and Russia solemnly reaffirmed their commitment to détente, as proclaimed by the Moscow Charter in 1972. As President Carter then put it: "Our new Salt treaty could provide the basic framework we seek to reduce tension and conflict throughout the world." Hopefully it could, but apparently it does not.

During the last few months the superpowers have not been able to "prevent the develop-ment of situations capable of causing a dangerous exacerba-tion of their relations", as Prin-ciple 2 of the Moscow Charter asked them to do. A short list of recent confrontations in-cludes: the affair of the Soviet brigade in Cuba; a series of military challenges and coun-terchallenges on "Euromis-siles" and massive Soviet pres-sures upon Western Europe; the attempted take-over of the Non-Aligned Movement by the Soviet faction; the strengthen-ing of links between China and the West; and the continuation of dangerous conflict in Indo-China. Is détente no longer ade-quate, as a strategy for peace, in a world of multiple tensions and conflicts?

According to Dr Kissinger's memoirs, détente was based on two elements: the Salt agree-ment, which was supposed to stop the "wildly spiralling nuclear arms race"; and the basic principles, which empha-sized "the necessity of respon-sible political conduct". A relaxation of tensions "could not be based exclusively on arms control; the ultimate test would be restrained inter-national behaviour".

The experience of seven years has unfortunately proved, first of all, that arms control agree-ments have a limited scope. They are unstable, being con-tinuously threatened by tech-nical progress. Strategic parity is the sum of a number of dis-parities and the overall balance of power never settles for long. Old weapons are always re-placed by the most powerful and advanced new weapons available: Russia's SS4 and SS5 missiles by the much more flexible, invulnerable and pre-cise SS20; America's Minute-man by the MX missiles, which are not just invulnerable but so much more powerful and precise that they will imme-diately create a new imbalance against the Soviet Union, instead of simply eliminating the present one against America. According to prece-dents, the British Polaris deterrent will certainly become a Trident deterrent.

Arrigo Levi, who edited La Stampa of Turin between 1973 and 1978.

Arms control agreements may have made the arms race less costly and somewhat less wild. But they are not con-ducive to disarmament or even to a stable balance of power. Nor have they prevented the great expansion of Soviet military power which has given the Soviet Union, for the first time in history, a global military reach which equates its political ambitions. When Mr Brezhnev and President Nixon promised each other "restraint", in May, 1972, there was one global power: now there are two. Détente between equals seems much more difficult to achieve.

This change has come about as a result of deliberate long planning by Moscow. Other challenges to the relative stabi-lity of what was a cosy, bipolar world (cosier for the side allied to the more equal superpower), have come from the world out-side the blocks.

This is not the multipolar world that Mr Nixon imagined, with just five great powers. First of all, a grand alliance may emerge between four of them against the fifth, which is Russia; and this must be as upsetting to the Kremlin as the growth of Soviet military power is upsetting to us. Even more, this is a free world, with many uncontrollable agents: govern-ments, political movements, peoples. Even with a stable global military power, there would remain a number of un-stable regional balances, in Asia, the Middle East, Africa, even Central America. The temptation to take advantage of these changes has increased, the exercise of restraint has be-come more difficult. But if the superpowers can exploit local tensions, they are often unable to check them, even when they want to: they can do more harm than good.

If détente, as defined a decade ago, is no longer viable, one can either decide to do without it (without the deceit of détente, as hardliners would claim); or one could try to define it more rigorously and give it greater scope, and even to move forward from détente to entente, as Dr Kissinger once dreamt. The two choices may not be contradictory, if "doing without détente" is understood as meaning that the West cannot blindly rely on Soviet restraint: great powers will always take advantage of superiority and try to make it permanent by blandishment and threats, as the recent Berlin speech by President Brezhnev again proves.

The West must therefore reestablish unilaterally some of the essential conditions for maintaining the balance of power, which is in itself the premise of détente. This im-plies taking action in the economic as well as in the military fields, the two being in many ways connected. As Raymond Aron put it in *Encounter*, a weakness of the West, for which the Russians are not responsible, in that we live in a world market, without having a world empire.

But strengthening our self-sufficiency and power, though necessary, is not by itself an adequate strategy for peace. Nor can détente be limited to arms control, leaving the whole world open to unrestrained confronta-tion, as President Carter seemed to believe for a time. Military agreements would not survive among continuous ten-sions and crises.

So the inadequacies of détente, in a world where no great power can "go it alone", can probably be remedied only by an effort to have more of it. We may need a new great age of negotiations, in many directions. The military balance in Europe could be a good start, once we have made it clear that we will not by cowed by Soviet bullying into acceptance of permanent inferiority.

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Mr Sadat's euphoria puzzles his advisers

By Edward Mortimer

President Sadat of Egypt is in a mood of such irrepressible optimism and euphoria as to perplex even some of his close advisers.

When I interviewed him last week in his rest house at the Barrage, outside Cairo, he de-clared himself "quite satisfied" with Israel's response to this peace initiative he launched two years ago and expressed total confidence in the outcome of the talks on Palestinian autonomy, even suggesting that agreement might be reached three or four months ahead of schedule. He brushed aside the dispute over the price Israel should pay for oil from the Alma oilfields in Sinai, which Egypt is to recover on Novem-ber 25.

Israel has been insisting that the oil be sold at the Opec price, $23.50 per barrel, rather than the spot market price at which Egypt sells the rest of its oil and which is nearly $10 higher. This could make a dif-ference of as much as $70m to the Egyptian balance of pay-ments. But Mr Sadat made light of the matter.

"You have made a mountain out of a molehill", he told me. "Because of what Israel is fac-ing now, I took my decision and asked my prime minister to arrange for it that, let the Israelis have the two million tonnes, or the quantity of oil that they used to have from this Alma field, for one year at the Opec price." There had not been any "real conflict" about this, he insisted.

Members of his government were reluctant to believe it when told that he had said this, and did their best to explain it away. According to one of them the real agreement is that Israel should pay the spot price but receive a soft loan to cover the difference in the first year.

Mr Sadat told me he believed it would take only another two to three months to reach agree-ment with Israel in the talks on autonomy for the Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

When I asked the reason for his remarkable confidence, which is not shared by indepen-dent observers or by Mr Robert Strauss, the outgoing American representative in the talks, the President gave two reasons.

"First of all, you wouldn't believe me when I tell you that during the last four or five years everyone was pessimistic—in America, in Israel, and in-cluding some of my aides—and I was optimistic. Second, by now I have known Begin and we have dealt together, and I feel the man is true for peace, as he is true also for the security of Israel."

He recalled that on his visit to Jerusalem he had set two main goals: that there should be "no war after the October war", and secondly that "there is a security issue that should be met". The first was now definitely achieved, he said, "and we are now on our way to achieve the second one.

"We have achieved it be-tween Egypt and Israel, and it will not be difficult to achieve it between the Palestinians and other parties like Jordan or Syria and Israel. We have put the example in the treaty that has been concluded between me and Israel. So for all these reasons combined I am optimistic."

Asked about the exchange of ambassadors between Israel and Egypt, which is due next February, Mr Sadat said other Arab states might react by adopting further sanctions against Egypt.

He continued: "But it will never hinder anything or impede our efforts towards a comprehensive settlement. I'm sorry to say that everything with my colleagues is based on slogans and exploitation and auctioneering and so on. Well, I have no time to lose in battles like this. But every effort from our side should be directed towards the fulfilment of the comprehensive settlement.

"Peace has already started to prevail, because I consider Camp David and the treaty between Egypt and Israel the cornerstone of this comprehen-sive settlement. We have laid already the cornerstone and it is very solid. The comprehen-sive will come sooner or later."

Mr Sadat repeated his view that the remaining problems in the Middle East were "75 per cent or more psychological". The Syrians, Palestinians and other Arabs, he said, were "not easing the whole thing for themselves and trying to under-stand the psychological dimen-sions of the whole problem."

Finally, I asked Mr Sadat whether he feared that Mr Begin's political difficulties at home might have repercussions for the peace process. He replied: "This is a pure inter-nal matter. I'm not to comment on it. But, let me tell you this. I have dealt with Begin and the man has proved himself to be a strong enemy and a strong friend. So it will be a loss if anything happens to him."

China's Christians go to church again

By Charles Douglas-Home

Church services for Chinese Christians have started again in Shanghai after at least 13 years of prohibition. The reopening reflects the gradual relaxation by China's Communist Party leadership on the question of organized religion.

Since the start of the Cultural Revolution in 1966 Christianity has gone largely underground among Chinese adherents, who officially number between 600,000 and one million. Apart from two churches in Peking which have performed mainly for foreigners in the last few years, no other formal Christian activity in China has been verified.

I recently visited a church in a poor area of Shanghai, near the waterfront. The church, which had probably been built as a Nonconformist hall in the 1920s, had been reactivated only a few weeks earlier. It was bulging with Chinese citizens. Nearly 1,000 men and women of all ages had crowded into the church and many more took part in the service standing out-side the building.

The service started with the familiar hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty" to the accompaniment of an elec-tric organ on the platform. The congregation sang from Chinese hymn sheets that must have been treasured in secret for many years and were collected for safe keeping after the service.

The form of service was basi-cally Presbyterian, according to the pastor, Mr Yang An Ting, who told me that he had been working in a factory until a few weeks previously when the authorities gave him permission to resume services. The church had been a furniture store until September.

There were no symbols of Christianity in the church, no altar, no signs of the cross. The pastor and his colleague were dressed like the congregation members, in blue cloth jackets and trousers. He sat behind a desk on which was a micro-phone through which he delivered a 30-minute sermon.

Bibles were in evidence among the congregation, all of them being handled with care. Bibles are not printed in China and are unlikely to be printed in the foreseeable future.

About four-fifths of the people were old or very old, and took part in the service with a passionate devotion. But every pew also had young men and women. The service was entirely in Chinese and ended after about an hour with a blessing and one verse of "All People that on Earth do Dwell".

There seemed to be nothing furtive about the holding of the service, in contrast to the secrecy and persecution which Christians have had to endure for years, particularly in Shanghai, the cradle of the Cultural Revolution. In 1966 most churches were closed, books were burnt and persecu-tion of individuals was frequent.

Since 1972, some relaxation at the top has been evident. Visitors to China have on occasion been allowed to meet prominent Christians, and the 1975 constitution included "Freedom to believe in religion and freedom not to believe in religion and to propagate atheism".

Reports reaching the West since then, mostly from over-seas Chinese returning to visit their families in the interior, speak of Christianity surviving on an almost cellular basis with people congregating in each other's houses.

During 1979 religion has received official sanction after 15 years of ostracism. In March a number of the politburo members exonerated religious groups of the "false charges" made against them and con-firmed that they were per-mitted to function again under the aegis of Government-controlled Religious Affairs Bureaux.

Later the Peking *People's Daily* drew the distinction between "permitted" world religions such as Christianity, Islam, Buddhism and ordinary "superstitions" which had no doctrine, rights or organization.

The Shanghai church indicates how far this tolerance has now progressed. However, owing to the suppression of the previous generation of Christians no new priests or ministers have been trained since 1966, nor have those who were trained been working in the churches.

The great fear among indigenous Chinese Christian leaders now is that this dearth of pastors will encourage the outside world to send mission-aries to help. They have made it quite clear that they would not welcome missionaries fear-ing their arrival could cause another crackdown by the Com-munist authorities.

Some Western missionary authorities appear to feel they should challenge the Chinese Government by sending in missionaries, notwithstanding the entreaties of their Chinese brethren. An anguished debate within the world missionary community is likely to ensue as signs of China's faltering Christian renaissance continue to emerge.

Legal fight to uphold China policy

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Nov 12

The United States Govern-ment will begin a long legal battle tomorrow to uphold President Carter's decision to end his country's defence treaty with Taiwan at the end of the year.

To the embarrassment of the Administration, a district court in Washington ruled last month that the President acted illegally in not seeking the approval of Congress for the proposed ter-mination of the pact. The deci-sion was taken unilaterally by President Carter last December, when he announced that he was recognizing communist China and ending formal recognition of Taiwan.

The lawsuit against the Presi-dent was initiated by Senator Barry Goldwater and 24 other conservative members of Con-gress who were angered by the Administration's move to aban-don a close ally of the United States.

In his ruling Mr Oliver Gasch, the district court judge, said a president does not have the con-stitutional power to end a treaty on his own authority and must seek the approval either of two-thirds of the Senate or of a majority of both Houses of Con-gress. He ordered the Admini-stration not to carry out plans to terminate the Taiwan treaty formally on January 1 next year.

The United States Court of Appeals has agreed to let the Justice Department challenge Mr Gasch's ruling during oral evidence tomorrow. This should make it possible for the Supreme Court to decide the issue finally by the end of the year deadline.

To justify his action, Presi-dent Carter invoked a clause in the treaty which said that the pact could be terminated by either party. But Mr Gasch said that the "party" mentioned is the United States as a whole and not the President alone.

Mr Sadat's euphoria puzzles his advisers

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China policy

PARLIAMENT, November 12, 1979

Outcome of British Leyland pay talks more important than result of ballot of work force

ouse of Commons
itish Leyland management were ell aware of the scope for imoved performance, Sir Keith oseph, Secretary of State for Inustry (Leeds, North East, C) said uring questions.

r Robert Adley (Christchurch nd Lymington, C) asked for a atement on future finance for ritish Leyland.

r K. Joseph—No proposals are et before me.

r Adley—In view of what he has aid about state intervention, the ecretary of State should confirm e recognises and accepts the difference between a taxpayers' subde on the one band to keep open lant not operating economically, nd the desire of private enterrise, on the other, which is preared to put money into manufacturing capacity like MG.

He should give positive encouraement to those people who want o maintain the manufacturing apacity of M.G. at Abingdon.

Sir K. Joseph—British Leyland have made clear that they are willng to examine any proposals which make commercial sense to them. I understand executives of Aston Martin-Lagonda and British Leyland have been meeting today Mr Leslie Huckfield an Opposition spokesman on industry (Nuneaton, Lab)—Sir K. Joseph, personally, has said little positive at all about British Leyland. He should bear in mind that although the ballot has taken place, its result proves nothing—(Conservative interruptions)—as British Leyland themselves have said.

The only condition for the longterm survival of British Leyland is a long-term investment plan for a new modern strategy, with financial support from the Department Sir K. Joseph—The successful conclusion of the negotiations on British Leyland Cars, wages and conditions of work package will be more important than the result of the ballot in assessing the case for any more taxpayers' money.

Mr Hilary Miller (Bromsgrove and Redditch, C.)—When does he expect to bring before the House the request for consideration from the NEB and British Leyland on the payment of the final instalment of £225m out of the £1,000m originally voted?

Sir K. Joseph—I do not control the timing of such considerations. First, the British Leyland board has to make proposals, and then the NEB have to put what proposals they they think fit to the Government. It is only then that the Government has something to consider.

Mr Christopher Price (Lewisham West, Lab)—Has he decided whether to allow British Leyland to become directly responsible to his department and removed from the umbrella of the NEB? When is he going to make a decision on this?

Sir K. Joseph—No such decision is asked of me at this moment.

Mr Peter Emery (Honiton, C)—Before he makes any further funds available to British Leyland, he should ensure that the British Leyland management has considered breaking up the managerial monolith of that company.

Sir K. Joseph—I have confidence in the British Leyland management to consider all the alternative options, but I will certainly bear in mind Mr Emery's thoughts if a proposal comes before the Government.

Mr David Stoddart (Swindon, Lab)—If we are to maintain a viable British car industry what is necessary is for British Leyland to spend capital on new models. He should ensure they are able to obtain that capital.

Sir K. Joseph—I have already said there is no plan at the moment before the Government.

Mr William Clark (Croydon South, C)—As among the most successful products of British Leyland are Range Rovers and Land Rovers, there is something radically wrong with men sleeping on the job when we have such a potential export market for these vehicles.

Sir K. Joseph—There are proposals that the British Leyland management have put to their work force at the moment. The management is well aware of the scope for improvtd perforamce.

Mr Hilary Miller, on later exchanges, asked—In view of the chairmen's wish to follow up the result o fthe ballot on the corporate plan currently being organized on the pay and productivity arrangements for the work force, if the chairman asked how long the Government would take to consider a request for funds what reply would he give?

Sir K. Joseph—The Chairman of British Leyland is realistic. He knows the Government will need some time. Once a request is received for funds via the NEB for British Leyland, the Government will need some time to consider so important a question.

Mr Jeffrey Rooker (Birmingham, Perry Barr, Lab)—The fact that British Leyland is under the NEB is more by accident than design. That being so, will he give a commitment that if the workers back British Leyland the Government will as well?

Sir K. Joseph—He is missing the point that the Government will need to consider the performance and likely performance of British Leyland management and workers. The reaction of the work force to current pay and conditions proposals, put to them by the management will have more significance in the Government's mind than the result of the ballot.

Mr David Price (Eastleigh, C)—There is a great deal of evidence that management-worker relationship is not good when the unit size is as large as it is in the case of British Leyland.

Sir K. Joseph—There is strength in that, but the chairman has to cope with reality as it is.

Mr Ronald Leighton (Newham, North-East, Lab)—British Leyland is only under the control of the NEB because private enterprise failed the motor industry. It cannot be expected to turn round in 12 months. It could well need a decade of public investment in this industry.

Sir K. Joseph—The forced mergers the Labour Government produced in the motor industry tended in the event to fail while the forced mergers over which the same Government presided in the electrical power industry have tended to succeed.

Unions Bill

Mr Patrick Mayhew, Under Secretary of State for Employment, said in a written reply that he hoped to publish a Bill to amend the law on industrial relations before the Christmas recess. He had no plans to introduce legislation to deal specifically with overtime bans and work to rules.

Industry Secretary refuses to be drawn on future of Rolls-Royce and NEB

When the Government had anything to announce about relations between Rolls-Royce and National Enterprise Board, a statement would be madr, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry (Leeds North-East, C) indicated.

Mr Ioan Evans (Aberdare, Lab) had asked—In view of the reports in the weekend press about the relationship between British Leyland, Rolls-Royce and the NEB, is it true that the resignation of the NEB board is on the table? Will there be a long-term future for the industry?

Sir K. Joseph—I have always been chary of predicting the long-term future of anything, including the NEB. As for the question about Rolls Royce and BL, when the Government has anything to announce about relations between Rolls-Royce and the NEB, a statement will be made.

Mr Michael Grylls (North-West Surrey, C)—There is great support for him in the firm line he is taking over the NEB and the return of Rolls-Royce to his Department where it can do a much better job than under the bureaucratic machinery of the NEB.

If the NEB threaten to resign en masse, he should accept their resignation and let them step off the state bureaucratic gravy train and save the taxpayers £2m a year.

Sir K. Joseph—Without commenting on the answer the Government will give to the present situation, I confirm there is a substantial job for the NEB to do as spelt-out in the Industry Bill before the House.

Mr John Evans (Newton Lab)—When the Secretary of State meets the chairman of the National Enterprise Board will he make it clear that part of the substantial job the NEB has to do will include control of Rolls-Royce?

Sir Keith Joseph—I have undertaken to consider the representations of the NEB on that subject and to make an announcement when a decision has been made.

Mr John Bruce-Gardyne (Knutsford, C)—Will he assure the House that when he comes to make a statement on Rolls-Royce the Secretary of State will bear in mind that from the taxpayers' point of view, there could be a case for what Sir Kenneth Keith described as "a bureaucratic contraceptive" in the light of the record of Rolls-Royce in accumulating orders totally regardless of any feasible prospect in the distant future of any return on those orders?

Sir Keith Joseph—The assumption made by Rolls-Royce about the exchange rate in its hugely successful drive for orders under Sir Kenneth Keith was one which was common to many other parts of British industry. I fully accept, however, that it is greatly in the interests of the taxpayers that Sir Kenneth Keith and his colleagues and successors should make the best, in terms of profits and cost, of the huge order book Rolls-Royce now has.

Mr John Wilkinson (Hillingdon, Ruislip-Northwood, C)—What benefits does the Secretary of State judge has accrued from the interposition of the NEB between the management of Rolls-Royce and his department? Can he state whether it has improved the financial management of Rolls-Royce?

Sir Keith Joseph—I do not wish to enter into questions of judgment on such matters. But the decision to put Rolls-Royce under the NEB was taken by the last Government.

Government has no incomes policy—Sir Keith Joseph

Earnings were welcome to rise provided a private sector company could afford it and a public sector company kept within its external financial requirement, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, said during question time. He considered that the Government was right in following the practice of the last Government in setting some constraint on the external financing requirement of nationalized industries.

Mr Jeffrey Rooker (Birmingham, Perry Barr, Lab) had asked if the Secretary of State would give the reasons for his letter to the chairmen of nationalized industries on the subject of wage restraint.

Sir K. Joseph (Leeds, North-East, C)—the letters explained the Government's views on the basis for setting the industries' cash limits for 1980-81. It is not customary to publish correspondence between ministers and nationalized industry chairmen.

Mr Rooker—Why did he write the letter? How can he reconcile why we should have wage restraint—whether or not it is called incomes policy—in the public sector and not in the private sector

Sir K. Joseph—I wrote the letter because Government, carrying on the practice of its predecessor, is imposing limits on the external financing of nationalized industries. It was necessary to warn the nationalized industry chairmen that these limits were being set earlier than usual this year to give them the maximum opportunity to keep within them.

Mr John Bruce-Gardyne (Knutsford, C)—The phrase which this letter apparently contained inviting the chairmen of the nationalized industries to make sure that wage increases "did not exceed the growth of the RPI" made a nonsense of the whole concept that there might be some industries such as the Gas Corporation which could justify substantial wage increases in the current round, and others, such as British Leyland, British Steel and British Shipbuilding, which would not be paying any wage increases at all.

Whoever put that phrase into the letter ought to be moved into a rather less sensitive position as soon as possible. (laughter)

Sir K. Joseph—That would be I (renewed laughter)—since I wrote the letter.

Without going so far as to publish the letter, I can disclose that the letter did emphasize that the actions in connection with pay for the different nationalized industries would be different, possibly very much so—each one from the other—in taking into account the different supply and demand positions, the market situation, the scope for higher productivity, and all the other factors he would agree with me in knowing to be essential.

There was no reference to earnings as such being below any particular level. There was, however, a recognition that labour costs are an important factor in total costs and that if the cash limits were to adhere then it would be essential that real factor costs, including labour costs, have to trend downwards.

Mr Douglas Jay (Wandsworth, Battersea, North, Lab)—Has the Government an incomes policy?

Sir K. Joseph—No.

Mr Kenneth Lewis (Rutland and Stamford, C)—I asked for a copy of this letter simply because I wanted to know whether the Government was inviting the nationalized industries to pay too much. I wanted to know whether there was an incomes policy which I think is necessary in the public sector if not in the private sector.

Sir K. Joseph—The private sector is constrained by the need of each individual firm to avoid bankruptcy. The nationalized industries are not subject to bankruptcy and therefore were subjected by my predecessor and the previous Government to what was called cash limits, and we now call external financial limits. That is the adequate way, and the best way to bring to bear on the nationlized industries, something faintly approaching the constraints that bear the private sector.

Mr John Silkin, chief Opposition spokesman on industry (Lewisham, Deptford, Lab)—Since he has said he has not the slightest intention of interfering in the managgment of any industry, nationalized or not, does not the fact that the letter, while discussing cash limits by any name you like, points out that wages should be held down mean total interference in that management?

Sir K. Joseph—Perhaps we are wrong in following, in this one particular, the practice of the last Government of setting some constraint on the external financing requirement of the nationalized industries. I do not think this is wrong.

Ministers in talks on jury vetting

Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, denied during question time that jury vetting would undermine the system of jury service. But he added that he and the Home Secretary were urgently reviewing the matter.

Mr David Winnick (Walsall, North, Lab)—The manner in which jury vetting has taken place in a number of cases has caused considerable concern. If the type of vetting we have seen recently continues it will undermine the very basis of the jury system itself. This would be unfortunate.

Sir M. Havers—Jury vetting, in fact, would not undermine the whole system of jury service. Perhaps the anxieties following The Guardian disclosure of some inquiry results thrown up at local police station levtl and the whole matter is under consideration between me and the Home Secretary. We have already started discussions on it.

In later exchanges, Sir M. Havers said his talks with the Home Secretary would obviously take some time and some consultation would be necessary. He added—As soon as those consultations are concluded, the Home Secretary or I will make a statement.

Mr Robert Cryer (Keighley, Lab)—It is unfortunate that the whole business of jury vetting and the secret guidelines drawn up by previous ministers came to public notice only because of the court case. The sort of guidelines Sir M. Havers is discussing should be clear and open to make sure there is no possible basis for the public to feel there is something funny going on behind closed doors.

Sir M. Havers—The decision to make the guidelines and not to publish, and subsequently to publish, has nothing to do with me or this Administration. But I understand that the Home Secretary or I will make a statement when our conclusions are reached and what we have decided will be published for all to see.

Willingness to consider sale of steel plants

If worth-while proposals were put forward by private industry to take over the British Steel Corporation plants at Shotton and Corby the Government would not stand in the way, Mr Adam Butler, Minister of State for Industry, stated.

Mr Butler (Bosworth, C) said in response to questions on BSC's progress towards the financial target of break-even by March 1980, that the corporation would be making a statement at the end of November when results for the second quarter were published.

Mr Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley, Lab)—With the present state of demand in the United Kingdom, The EEC and the world, this target is impossible and will only lead to the breakup of BSC.

Mr Butler—A slightly tougher target was set by the Labour Administration 18 months ago. This target was picked up and renewed by the present Secretary of State, Sir Keith Joseph. It was a tough target but we believe it is still attainable.

Affairs such as the Hunterston dispute have not helped the situation and the attainment of the target. If there is any further industrial disruption in the industry, the target will be even more difficult.

Mr Michael Brown (Brigg and Scunthorpe, C)—Will Mr Butler comment on the report that the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation will recommend the sale to private enterprise of Shotton and Corby?

Mr Butler—I noted that comment with considerable interest and I hope it is supported by MPs of all parties.

The Government has made clear in regard to Shotton or Corby that if there is a worthwhile proposal put forward which will not use public funds we will not stand in the way. One of the problems in the industry is over-capacity. That would have to be taken into account.

Mr William Homewood (Kettering, Lab)—If BSC are unable to meet the target of breaking even by March next year this brings into question its whole credibility. If this proves to be so there is a strong case for investigating the management with an inquiry as to both their competence and their need to provide sustenance for communities that are going to be destroyed.

Mr Butler—He must wait for the six months' results which will be out shortly. Ministers have confidence in the management of BSC.

Mr Peter Rost (South-East Derbyshire, C)—Does his earlier reply mean he denies the extraordinary press report over the weekend that the Government would actualy try to oppose any sale to private enterprise of plants that are likely to be closed?

Mr Butler—I hope what I said earlier was a clear statement of the Government's attitude.

Mr John Silkin, chief Opposition spokesman on industry (Lewisham, Deptford, Lab)—Mr Butler's statement of a moment ago that the Labour Government made the condition of attainment of viability by 1980 is totally incorrect. If BSC is unable to meet viability by March 1980, what will the Government do?

Mr Butler—The first part is a denial of the facts. These are clearly recorded in Hansard of May 1978, the words of the then Secretary of State, and in the report on the Expenditure White Paper of January 1979. They cannot be in dispute.

The target remains for the BSC to be operating profitably in the next financial year.

Over to push button voting by Euro MPs

European Parliament
Strasbourg

Approval of an electronic system as one of the methods of voting in the Parliament is recommended in a two-day debate, which started today, on proposed changes in the parliament's rules of procedure. The proposals, put forward by the Committee on the Rules of Procedure and Petitions, will be voted upon at the end of the debate tomorrow (Tuesday). Numerous amendments have been tabled.

The committee recommends that electronic voting, equipment for which has already been installed, should be put on a par with other methods of voting used in Parliament hitherto—by show of hands, sitting and standing or by a roll call—and that a decision over its use in particular cases should be with the President.

The committee recommends that where the electronic system is used, a vote in which the names of members voting are not registered should have the same value as a vote by show of hands or by sitting and standing, and that where the names are registered, it should have the same value as a roll call.

The committee's report, part of the move to adapt the rules of procedure to the needs of a directly-elected Parliament, recommends that members not affiliated to any particular political group in Parliament should be included in a group of their own.

The group would enjoy aministrative facilities, would have at its disposal a secretariat, the composition and size of which would be determined by parliament's managerial enlarged bureau (ie the President, Vice-President and leaders of the political groups), and would have the same rights as members of political groups over seats on committees. The rights of its members regarding speaking time would also be guaranteed.

However, the Committee said in its report that there had been some disagreement among its members over the other rights which should be accorded this group. Some felt it should have all the rights of a political group with representation and a vote in the enlarged bureau. The majority, however, felt that if the non-affiliated members were grouped together the group should not be confused with a political group as it would, by its nature, consist of members with different political views.

Accordingly it recommends that the group should nominate a member to attend meetings of the enlarged bureau, but that this representative should not have a vote.

The committee also proposed that the term of office of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Parliament should be two and a half years, and that should a vacancy for one of these positions occur before the expiry of the term, the member elected should serve only for the unexpired period of his predecessor's term of office.

It proposes that the minimum number of members for a political groups should be set at 21, and that requests for alterations to the draft agenda, for emergency debates and for roll call votes should be made by at least 21 members before they can be considered by parliament as a whole.

The report was presented to Parliament by Mr Hans Nord (The Netherlands, L), rapporteur of the committee. He was Secretary General of the Parliament, 1962-79.

Labour MPs want agreement with Patriotic Front before Rhodesia returns to legality

An amendment designed to prevent the powers conferred by the Southern Rhodesia Bill being used by the Government, even if there is not an agreement between all parties at the Lancaster House conference, was moved by Mr Alexander Lyon (York, Lab) when the committee stage of the Bill began. The Bill was due to complet its remaining stages in the Commons last night and to be taken through all its stages in the House of Lords today.

Mr Lyon moved the amendment to Clause 1 (Power to provide constitution for Zimbabwe) to add that the power to provide that constitution should not be operative until "after agreement has been reached by all parties represented at the constitutional conference".

He said that the amendment was crucial to consideration of the whole Bill. It might be that some, especially Conservative, MPs thought that that was to make false assumptions about the intention of the Bill and the bona fides of the Government, and that the amendment was totally unnecessary.

There had, in due course, been statements from the Foreign Secretary and the Lord Privy Seal which left it open to the Government to go ahead and use its powers under the Bill even if it had no agreement with all parties at the conference.

It was conceivable that a good many Conservatives would have withdrawn assent to second reading of the Bill if it meant the Government was taking powers to put in a Governor even though the war were to continue. He suspected that no one of common sense would want that, but powers in the Bill allowed it to happen.

Certain powers were conditional upon an Order in Council, but that was not amenable and would always be presented to the House on the basis that they had committed themselves, had sent out a governor, and could not let him remain there without powers conferred by the order because that would make his position intolerable.

He hoped that no one would want the Bill without the qualifying condition of the amendment, and that it would command a fair amount of all-party support.

Publicity from the BBC in particular and the press in general indicated that the conference was on the point of agreement, but he was more conscious of the Patriotic Front and did not take that view.

Without agreement with the Patriotic Front there could be no end to the war because if they were not satisfied with the settlement they would go on fighting and had the capacity to do so.

There could then be a possibility that the war would go on and Britain be involved in it.

Bishop Muzorewa had already sent his delegation back home to get on with the election. Could it be true as reported in The Guardian this morning that the Government had already set up a deal with Bishop Muzorewa?

Sir Raymond Gower (Barry, C) said Mr Lyon's anxieties were covered by a later amendment attaching the affirmative procedure to the order. This might be considered more appropriate. He did not know whether agreement by all the parties was really possible. He certainly hoped so.

Mr Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley, Lab) said it was simply no use supposing the Government could go ahead and conclude an agreement which was acceptable to Bishop Muzorewa and acceptable, presumably, to Ian Smith, and totally unacceptable to the Patriotic Front.

Such an agreement would not be acceptable to the international community. In terms of both sanctions and achieving unenduring settlement an agreement which was not acceptable to the United Nations would not stick and would not bring peace to central Africa.

Mr Iain Mills (Meriden, C) said that after nine weeks of talks the Bill was scarcely a steamroller or a rush. The Opposition amendment would tip the delicate balance the Government was trying to achieve with all parties at the conference by giving one party a positive force that the other had not—an effective veto. The Patriotic Front could continue the talks indefinitely.

The Patriotic Front must in their hearts find it difficult to guarantee to deliver the goods—a cease fire. It was essential to allow the minister to have the ability to tackle the problems exactly as they occurred. There could be an armed coup by the guerillas.

If something was not guaranteed they must leave it to the negotiators to achieve the best balance and compromise for all the peoples of Zimbabwe Rhodesia.

Mr Samuel Silkin (Southwark, Dulwich, Lab) said the Government had got itself into an impossible situation and one which the Labour amendments were designed to deal with. They were still acting under the six principles and particularly the principle which said that it was essential for any settlement to have the agreement of the people as a whole. It was apparent that they had not reached that stage.

Mr Frederick Burden (Gillingham, C) said that the amendment, if passed, would prolong any possibility of peace in Zimbabwe Rhodesia, where the situation in recent months had deteriorated considerably. Time was running out in every way. It would be wrong for anybody to encourage the Patriotic Front to fail to come to agreement at the Lancaster House conference.

Mr David Winnick (Walsall, North, Lab) said it would be a great tragedy if agreement was only reached with one side, namely the Salisbury regime. That could create the danger of Britain becoming involved in a mini-Vietnam.

Mr Norman Buchan (West Renfrewshire, Lab) said without the agreement of the three parties at Lancaster House, the six principles would not have been fulfilled.

They were now recognizing that the Patriotic Front had been an instrument in the achieving of legality. They were on Britain's side and had helped to bring an illegal regime to legality.

Mr Nigel Spearing (Newham, South, Lab) said agreement was the obverse of armed conflict and war. The amendment went to the root of the Bill and the issues that confronted the Government and House.

Mr James Johnson (Kingston upon Hull, West, Lab) said if there were not a settlement the war would escalate and a deal with Bishop Muzorewa could lead to a double disaster.

Mr John Farr (Harborough, C) said the black man in Rhodesia was unique and not militant. These people were anxious to improve themselves but anyone trying to stir them up to use force would have a hard time.

Mr Stanley Newens (Harlow, Lab) said supporters of the amendment were not opposed to the Bill in principle but believed it was untimely at this juncture.

Mr Stephens Hastings (Mid-Bedfordshire, C) said that the amendment would give the Patriotic Front control over timing and events at the conference and enable them to drag it out.

The Government had made such progress as it had because the Foreign Secretary had insisted on an agenda and a timetable.

Viscount Cranborne (South Dorset, C) said that there was clear evidence that the delegation from Salisbury were men of good will. But what evidence had they that the Patriotic Front were men of good will? They accepted the constitution only with the greatest relectance and with reservation.

Sir Ian Gilmour, Lord Privy Seal (Chesham and Amersham, C) said it would be no good to meet the demands of the Patriotic Front if in the process they lost the agreement of the Salisbury delegation.

The suggestion that they had squeezed out the Patriotic Front bore no relation to what had been happening over the past nine weeks.

I hope (he said) the Opposition will not encourage the Patriotic Front to prevaricate. That would be damaging to the chances of a settlement. (Conservative cheers.) The Patriotic Front must be prepared to put their electoral support to the test.

It will not be possible for us to persuade the Salisbury delegation to remain in London indefinitely while the Patriotic Front make up their minds.

The amendment was rejected by 299 votes to 242—Government majority, 57.

Welsh Secretary to make a statement today

Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, is to make a statement tomorrow (Tuesday) on help for the Shotton area, following the decision to close the steel plant, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, stated.

He was answering Mr Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon, Plaid Cymru) who asked if additional resources would be given to the National Enterprise Board to overcome the job problems in such areas.

Sir Anthony Meyer (West Flint, C)—Even those who deplore excessive Government intervention believe that in the kind of situation that has arisen at Shotton immediate pump priming, as opposed to sustained, is going to be necessary.

Sir Keith Joseph—I entirely agree. Even people such as I, who think the Government has intervened far too much since the war, believe that the Government has a function in cushioning change.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons
Today at 2.30: Debates on woollen and textile industries and on cuts in BBC's external services.

House of Lords
Today at 2.30: Southern Rhodesia Bill, all stages.

Rights of way inquiry

A public inquiry will begin at Rhayader, Powys, today into proposals to open public rights of way in the area to vehicles.

Job prospects worsened

The costs of the engineering dispute and settlement were serious, Mr Michael Marshall, Under-Secretary for Industry, said at question time. The effects would be felt in the short and long term through the further erosion of already meagre profit margins, price increases, the impact of relative costs and the loss of confidence overseas in Britain's ability to deliver on time. Job prospects in the industry could only be worsened.

Mr Jocelyn Cadbury (Birmingham, Northfield, C)—Unless accompanied by increased productivity the shorter working week is bound to lead to greater unemployment.

Mr Marshall (Arundel, C)—I agree. It is one of the sad parts of the settlement of this dispute that job prospects have been so greatly affected.

Mr John Lee (Nelson and Colne, C)—Will he continue to draw the attention of those employed in the engineering industry to the disastrous effects of the strike typified by firms like Tube Investments?

Mr Marshall—I agree. The estimate of the fall in output by the engineering industry in August was of the order of 10 per cent.

Mr Bernard Conlan (Gateshead, East, Lab)—If the Government had not consistently encouraged the Engineering Employers' Federation in resisting the legitimate claims of these trade unions, the matter would have been settled long before it was. Responsibility for the damage to this industry largely belongs to the Government.

Mr Marshall—I do not accept the premise on which the first part of the question was based, so the second does not arise.

Parliamentary diary

House of Commons

Nov 5: Education (No 2) Bill read a second time by 306 votes to 253. Money resolution carried by 296 votes to 247. Adjournment debate about report of Royal Commission on Legal Services. House adjourned, 11.41 pm.

Nov 6: Statements on attack on British Embassy in Tehran and on loss of Coaster Pool Fisher. School Records Bill read a first time. Industry Bill read a second time by 307 votes to 250. Adjournment debate about the textile industry. House adjourned, 10.47 pm.

Nov 7: Statement on Rhodesia. Southern Rhodesia Bill read a first time. Hare Coursing (Abolition) Bill read a first time. Debate on steel industry on Opposition motion. Motion rejected by 307 votes to 248 and Government amendment carried by 313 votes to 242. Motion on Members' interests agreed to. Adjournment debate about Special Branch. House adjourned, 12.29 am (Thursday).

Nov 8: British Aerospace Bill read a first time. Southern Rhodesia Bill read a second time by 314 votes to 253 and Opposition amendment rejected by 311 votes to 252. Adjournment debate about fishery protection vessels. House adjourned, 11.10 pm.

Nov 9: Affiliation Orders and Allowances (Annual Up-rating) Bill: Youth and Community Bill; Representation of the People Bill; and Licensed Premises (Exclusion of Certain Persons) Bill all read a second time. Adjournment debate about Bombing Ranges, Pembrey, Dyfed. House adjourned, 4.31 pm.

House of Lords

Nov 5: Protection of Official Information Bill read a second time. Debate on the steel industry in Scotland. House adjourned, 7.32 p.m.

Nov 6: Bail Etc (Scotland) Bill read a second time. Ministry of Overseas Development (Dissolution) Order agreed to. Debate on passport union within the EEC. Debate on future strategy of British Airways. House adjourned, 7.50 pm.

Nov 7: Statement on Rhodesia. Debate on nation's difficulties and opportunities. House adjourned, 10.50 pm.

Nov 8: Farriers Bill and Betting, Gaming and Lotteries (Amendment) Bill both read a first time. British Railways (No 2) Bill read a second time. Scottish Equitable Life Assurance Society Bill, Sale of Goods Bill, Gaming (Amendment) Bill all read the third time and passed. Bill of Rights Bill read a second time. Motions to approve various social security orders agreed to. House adjourned, 6.20 pm.

Illustration by Michael Trevithick

Months of hope and despair before the champagne corks popped

The dispute at Times Newspapers Ltd, which closed down the company's five titles for more than 11 months, had its roots in years of unrest and apprehension about manpower economies and the impact of new printing technology.

As long ago as 1975, the TUC Printing Industries Committee, anxious about the "enormous financial and technological problems faced by the industry", initiated talks with the national newspaper publishers. Out of these talks came *Programme for Action*, a jointly agreed blueprint designed to transform the industry and its troubled labour relations. It set up a joint standing committee and laid down agreed machinery for voluntary redundancy, pensions, decasualization, manpower and new technology disputes procedures and training. Despite a warning from their union leaders of the "extremely grave" consequences of rejecting this new framework for Fleet Street, the men threw it out in a ballot.

It was against this background of failed collective initiative and worsening industrial relations in the industry that the board of Times Newspapers decided to take a unilateral stand. In a letter to print union general secretaries dated April 26, 1978, Mr M. J. Hussey, managing director and chief executive of TNL, complained of crippling unofficial strikes at Gray's Inn Road.

In the first quarter of 1978, the company lost 7,700,000 copies—"a staggering 20 per cent" of normal output—because of industrial action. Lost profit amounted to £1.75m, equal to the total profit for 1977.

Mr Hussey said: "It is not an exaggeration that almost the total working hours of our board and senior managers are now occupied with trying to prevent disputes, solving disputes and repairing the damage they caused. Virtually no effort is going into improving the turnover and profitability of the company."

The company therefore asked for urgent discussions on these basic principles: absolute continuity of production; negotiation of a fast-acting and effective disputes procedure; a general wage restructuring based on new technology and systems, and on efficient manning levels in all departments.

There would be no compulsory redundancy arising from new technology, but TNL set a deadline of November 30, 1978, for the conclusion of negotiations. If agreement could not be reached by that date, publication of *The Sunday Times*, *The Times* and its three supplements (Literary, Educational and Higher Education) would be suspended and not resumed until management felt there was reasonable staffing and efficient working and there was likely to be uninterrupted production.

It was several months before all the union general secretaries could be gathered in one room to consider the full impact of this announcement. Afterwards, they complained that TNL management was not even then ready to begin detailed negotiations. In the few weeks that remained before the ultimatum expired, little progress was made. The main craft print union, the National Graphical Association (NGA), refused to discuss the company's key proposal that journalists and advertisement staff should share access to the keyboards linked to the computerized electronic photocomposition system.

By the time the deadline arrived, agreement had been reached with only four of the 56 chapels (office branches) of unions with membership at TNL. These covered circulation representatives belonging to the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades (Sogat); *The Sunday Times* journalists (NUJ); engineering maintenance men (AEUW) and the construction crew (Ucatt).

Disruption continued right up to the end, with 68,000 copies of the last pre-suspension edition of *The Times* being lost because of unofficial action in the machine room. When the presses stopped, MPs were anxiously debating the future of *The Times*. The then Employment Secretary, Mr Albert Booth saw "no magic formula" which the Government could impose.

In a last-minute effort to stave off a long closure, management held back the issue of notices to more than 3,000 staff until December 14. But the £1m gesture proved abortive. Peace moves from several quarters, including the Department of Employment, came to nothing, and the first 580 staff to be dismissed left as the New Year came in.

Dismissals continued at the rate of about 100 a week as individual notices ran out, and with the staff rundown emerged a new militancy on the shopfloor. Members of the Natsopa print union and the NGA voted not to reopen talks with management until all the dismissed employees had been reinstated. An all-union liaison committee "comprising and representing chapels from all unions was formed and supplied a platform for the lay officials of the print unions.

The position of the NUJ journalists on *The Times* had been equivocal. Although they had not been involved in any of the disputes that prompted the showdown with the printers, they too were required on pain of dismissal to sign a deal under the New Agreements Project (as the whole exercise was known). They refused, and later signed an interim agreement that safeguarded their employment but specified that they would not be asked to do work which had not been voluntarily relinquished by another union. That deal was later converted into a full operating agreement giving cooperation with the first phase of new technology.

Political and social interest in the dispute in the first few months was widespread but fitful. Mr Norman St John Stevas, MP, then Shadow Leader of the House, argued that the need to defeat "the uncontrollable minority that threatened free speech and ultimately democracy" was more important than the temporary disappearance of a great national institution like *The Times*. And, not one to miss a bandwaggon, Mr Arthur Scargill, left-wing leader of the Yorkshire miners, suggested that the paper should be nationalized. More cogently, Mr Tony Benn, MP, invited his colleagues in the dying days of the Callaghan government to promote a BBC takeover. His ideas found little favour in the Cabinet.

While all seemed frozen on the surface, indirect contacts between the two sides were maintained through the TUC. But secret intervention from this quarter was "blown" by the NGA and met a premature end. The issue of "whose fingers on the keyboard" was still the main stumbling block.

An explanation of the apparent impasse was given in a speech to the Engineering Employers Federation by Mr William Rees-Mogg, editor of *The Times* and a director of TNL. He confessed himself surprised at "the sheer incapacity of most of the trade unions to carry out any coherent negotiations, let alone negotiations of some complexity. . . . In these complex non-executive structures, almost everyone seems to have a veto". Much the same kind of criticism was levelled at management by union negotiators of many years' experience.

As the dispute dragged on into its fourth month, it was Mr Albert Booth, the Employment Secretary, who tried to rekindle hopes of a negotiated solution, and for several weeks it appeared that he might succeed. The minister called in both sides on March 8 and persuaded the company to reengage all those who had been dismissed since the suspension of publication and extend the notice of those still technically in employment. This arrangement was to last until April 17—the putative date for republication.

The Booth formula appeared at the time to offer real grounds for optimism. The matters for negotiation remained basically the same, but the issue of new technology was deliberately blurred. Its application was now "to be in accordance with a timetable to be agreed and with arrangement for further joint reviews". And chapel officials who had complained about being left out in the cold in negotiations critical to their members' future were to be fully involved in subsequent talks. Furthermore, both sides were free to make new proposals and counterproposals.

In an effort to make some progress, management was evidently giving ground, but this peace initiative foundered principally on the same rock as all previous attempts: the NGA's insistence on retaining a monopoly of the typesetting keyboard. The union was willing to cooperate in a conventional "back-end" electronic photocomposition system which left all the printing in its members' hands—even though this would reduce the number of compositors' jobs by about 40 per cent—but it would not concede the cardinal principle of keystroking.

The union declined to go to arbitration, arguing in the words of the NGA president Mr Les Dixon, "it's a matter of principle and you can't arbitrate on a principle". Developments elsewhere since November 30 had confirmed their monopoly of the keyboard. Agreements on new technology had been reached with the *Glasgow Herald*, *The Observer* and the *Daily Express* on the NGA's terms: you write and we print.

Negotiations with Natsopa were also at stalemate. The *Sunday Times* machine chapel, led by Mr Reg Brady, refused to countenance company proposals for a cut in its numbers from 540 to 318. And the paper's clerical workers, led by Mr Barry Fitzpatrick, were contesting the use of new electronic systems in their area, which management said needed fewer staff. In Natsopa, the management-union conflict ran in competition with an intra-union battle scarcely less fierce. The militant *Sunday Times* Natsopa leaders had long been at loggerheads with the union's general secretary, Owen O'Brien, and his influence in the TNL chapels was regarded by most observers as minimal. It was the chapel leaders who actually decided what would happen.

Breakdown came at the close of the Easter weekend, in a brief management statement which stated cryptically; "The management is actively considering the options open to them. These do not include accepting union terms which are quite unrealistic". Just what this "option" was became clear a few days later, on April 20, 1979, when Mr Rees-Mogg announced the company's intention to produce a weekly edition of *The Times* at a secret location abroad.

The NGA, which had just declared an official dispute with TNL, was predictably irate, describing the move as "an escalation of the dispute". NGA pickets were posted at New Printing House Square in line with the dispute decision, and the 620 members were put on a round-the-clock rota. The men received £40 a week dispute benefit from their union, and a similar sum from a levy in other Fleet Street houses. Many of the Natsopa machine and clerical workers had been found alternative work in the industry, for which the print unions have traditionally served as the labour exchange.

The location of the "secret" printing operation—Frankfurt—was soon known, and the NGA sent a national officer, John Willats, to Germany to appeal to the International Graphical Association and the German print union, IG Druck und Papier, not to handle the copy from London. The first—and last—edition was set in Darmstadt (ironically, by the very same technology in dispute at *The Times*) and it was to be printed by the Turkish publishers of the daily *Tercuman* at Zeppelinheim, close to the international airport.

When the time came to print the international edition, pickets gathered round the plant entrance, some print workers, others thought to be local left-wingers getting in on the act. Then, according to a *Times* executive, Michael Mander, in a radio interview at the time, a petrol soaked rag was pushed into an outside grill that led to a compressor in the machine room. "There was a possibility of an explosion or fire", he said. Police advised that they could not guarantee the safe production of the paper, he added. Mr Rees-Mogg claimed that "violent and criminal elements" on the Frankfurt picket line had prevented publication. The NGA official insisted that his union did not condone violence.

The issue of contributing to the continental edition put journalists who had not written for their paper for five months in an acute dilemma. Management allowed them to contribute or not, according to individual conscience, but the NUJ executive had instructed its members to "black" the so-called *Eurotimes*. Before the first edition was published, voting was narrowly against endorsing the NUJ instruction, but after the unpleasant scenes at Zeppelinheim the journalists decided that the continental operation was an obstacle to a negotiated solution of the main dispute, and voted not to work on any future editions; none was produced.

In the wake of this unhappy venture came a mildly promising avenue of discussion when the journalists helped to bring the NGA and management together for talks on what constituted the company's minimum terms for NUJ access to the new technology. Talks were held at the union's Bedford headquarters, but it was clear the two sides were still talking a different langauge.

Another month of deadlock passed without any serious shift from these trench-warfare positions. In fact, by early summer, the dispute had taken on a dangerously elongated perspective. Senior executives on both sides were talking in terms of months rather than weeks before there was any prospect of a solution.

But in June came a two-pronged peace initiative. There was contact at the highest level in private on the form a compromise might take, and a more public exercise in restoring badly eroded relationships with the workforce. The basis for a deal on new technology that satisfied both sides was discussed, and Sir Denis Hamilton, chairman of TNL, responded to an invitation to meet the all-union liaison committee for the first time.

This meeting, at a hall in Gray's Inn Road, was attended by Sir Denis Hamilton, Mr Hussey and the general manager Mr Dugal Nisbet-Smith. The company chairman said he wanted to be the catalyst to get talks going again, and he told the union representatives: "You will find us very flexible, we are newspaper makers, not executioners."

Sir Denis admitted that a gulf had grown up between shopfloor leaders and management. "I don't think we have been seeing enough of each other; many of us, including myself, have got out of touch. We want strong unions with authority. But things have changed over the past few years. FoCs [fathers of the chapel, or office branch chairmen] have won more power, but I don't bellieve that the movement has realized its responsibilities. I want our FoCs to use their power with us constructively."

Things were moving at last, but it was a slow catalyst—too slow to prevent the NGA national council from deciding on June 21 to disperse its TNL members to alternative jobs. At issue was still the question of direct input; and though Sir Denis had set the stage for realistic bargaining with the chapels by publicly recognizing the shift of power from the centre, the real breakthrough did not come until Lord Thomson of Fleet, the proprietor, intervened at the highest level.

The scope for a compromise on new technology was evident in one word of Lord Thomson's address to the annual general meeting of the International Thomson Organisation in London six days after the NGA dispersal decision. He told shareholders: "We have regarded it as of great importance to the future of our publications that *ultimately* (my italics) this new modern equipment should be used to its full potential."

In other words, direct input perhaps later but not this year. This was the basis of the top-level compromise that was reached between TNL management and the NGA, and formalized in talks with Lord Thomson. The two sides agreed that the issue of "whose finger on the keyboard" should no longer be an obstacle to the negotiated republication of all the titles. The issue was put on one side for talks starting with the NUJ and then involving the NGA and Natsopa. These quadripartite negotiations are designed to produce an agreement after 12 months, but there is no guarantee that it will be the one originally sought by the company—ie, phased introduction of direct input to the typesetting computer by journalists and telephone advertising clerks.

Talks on TNL's other goals—reduced manning, reformed working practices, guaranteed production and a disputes procedure—opened a few days later in a London hotel. Management tabled a nine-point formula—*Republication and Return to Work at Times Newspapers*—which the unions took away for consideration. Some items, such as pay rates at the restart, were contested, but on the whole union leaders thought it was a basis for negotiating a return.

But the process of negotiating a return to work took far longer—nearly four months—and was far more difficult than any of the "combatants" expected. To begin with, the unions consulted at national and chapel level, and came back with their own common policy for reinstatement. It differed substantially from management's nine points. For example, the chapels wanted higher wages and postponement of negotiations on all new technology until after republication.

This document was presented to management on July 17, and the company replied three days later with a much-amplified version of its original paper, running to five pages and spelling out a wide range of interim operating agreements required on new machinery and systems. The unions rejected TNL's package out of hand, and sought immediate talks with the parent company, the Thomson Organisation.

That meeting on July 26 with Mr Gordon Brunton, chief executive of Thomson, restarted the peace process and a new formula for return to work (the third was drafted for the parties by Mr Bill Keys, chairman of the TUC Printing Industries Committee and general secretary of Sogat). With some variations, this was agreed and signed by the national officials of the NGA, NUJ, Sogat and Natsopa.

This formula was rapidly endorsed by the NGA at national and chapel level, but there was uproar among Natsopa chapel officials when they saw what had been signed on their behalf. An annex commited them to work the ICL commercial computer, electronic payroll machines, line printers, and train for inputting on visual display terminals. One by one in early August, the Natsopa chapels rejected the formula in spite of a recommendation from their national executive to accept it. In a complete reversal of their earlier position, Natsopa lay officials now demanded negotiation of full operating agreements *before* a return to work.

For a period of weeks the momentum towards settlement appeared to have petered out. After accepting the peace formula, the NGA had withdrawn its pickets but the union's members had not been reinstated because the document laid down that reinstatement was subject to endorsement of all the unions, and the Natsopa members had once again cut the ground from under their leaders.

Negotiations continued with these Natsopa groups but progress was slow, and the NGA men grew increasingly restive. Towards the end of August they threatened to emulate their Natsopa colleagues, withdraw from their agreement and seek work elsewhere. At the second time of trying, the NGA got their members reinstated, and came back on the books on September 16, leaving Natsopa still negotiating.

On October 4, agreement was reached with the *Sunday Times* machine chapel of Natsopa, and the NGA machine managers reacted violently to what they saw as an erosion of their traditional differentials over less skilled machine assistants. In a move that brought the dispute into its most critical phase, the NGA men refused to go back to work alongside Natsopa until the differential gap was closed. Each side accused the other of breaking the peace agreement, and Mr Dixon, president of the NGA, flew back from an International Graphical Federation conference in Stockholm to take personal charge of his union's part in the crisis.

The Thomson Organisation set a deadline of midnight October 17 for a final settlement of the crisis, and opened four days of intensive, practically non-stop negotiations. The deadline came and went without agreement. The two sides retired, exhausted, in the early hours of October 18. Later that day, joined by Lord Thomson, the boards of TNL and the Thomson Organisation began to consider options for a complete restructuring of the papers. If this had gone through, there would have been a fresh wave of dismissals of those who had been reinstated, but a "final, final" deadline of 4 pm on October 21 was fixed after late night talks at TUC headquarters. Mr Joe Wade, general secretary of the NGA, said both sides had been guilty of pushing their negotiators "beyond the limits of physical endurance".

The last round of talks was successfully concluded with the NGA a little after 11 am on the final day of the last ultimatum period. With little more than two hours to go, general secretaries of the print unions signed their assent. Agreement had been reached with the NGA leadership and chapels on productivity, manning, pay and working arrangements for the composing room, reading department, foundry and technical and executive section. In the machine room, everything except manning was agreed, and this outstanding issue goes to a joint adjudication panel chaired by Mr James Mortimer, chairman of Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service. Its findings are *binding on both sides*.

In the front lobby of New Printing House Square, several dozen NGA members who had waited to the end cheered their leader to his car. Lord Thomson told reporters that the suspension had been worth it if it had secured the long term future of the papers. Champagne was poured by a toastmaster and a toast to both sides was repeated for the benefit of waiting cameramen. It was an emotional end to a dispute which had lasted for 11½ months.

Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

THE ARTS

Neil Simon, playing with £15,000 a week

Tonight, when *Last of the Red Hot Lovers* opens at the Criterion in London, Neil Simon, one of the most successful comic dramatists in the history of world theatre, will be trying again for a legitimate West End hit. Not that he has been exactly unsuccessful in Britain: a string of musicals from *Sweet Charity* and *Little Me* all the way through to *Promises Promises*, and a succession of such films as *The Goodbye Girl* and *California Suite*, have made his a familiar name on the posters. But the fact remains that not one of his Broadway comedies, not *Barefoot in the Park* nor *The Odd Couple* nor *The Sunshine Boys* nor even *Plaza Suite*, has ever managed in the London theatre to repeat the original American success. The Atlantic is perhaps the most dangerous crossing for comic dramatists: certainly Alan Ayckbourn's *Bedroom Farce* is now nearing the end of its Broadway run after much less than half its London life.

Mr Simon remains commendably if understandably unperturbed; at 52, with 17 plays and 14 films already off his typewriter, he can reckon on a steady income from them of around £15,000 a week. Add to that his ownership of the Eugene O'Neill Theatre on Broadway, and about eight million dollars safely in the bank, and it's not too hard to work out why he is not going to be lying awake tonight worrying about the notices. Not that he has altogether ceased to care about the West End; Simon just thinks it would be nice if his royalties there could one day be greater than his hotel bill at the Connaught.

This time it may just happen: *Last of the Red Hot Lovers* comes not from West End managements (most of them have in the past been responsible for the catastrophic miscasting that has always bedevilled Simon over here) but from the Royal Exchange in Manchester, where the production opened to some rave reviews back in April. Its London chances may however have been fractionally damaged, as Simon admits through clenched teeth, by the BBC's decision to screen the film version on Sunday.

"I hate that film anyway, but can you imagine a television network deciding to show it two days before the play has its London premiere? What harm have I ever done to the BBC?"

Neil Simon's eventual biographer is going to be able to trace much of his life through his comedies: the son of a flamboyant rag-trade father (*Come Blow Your Horn*) he married early and penniless (*Barefoot in the Park*) and went out to California to write *Sergeant Bilko* with his brother who soon divorced and went to live with another male divorcee (*The Odd Couple*). Simon's first wife was to die of cancer, and the story of how he came through that and into a second marriage to the actress Marsha Mason is told in *Chapter Two*, the film of which has just been completed with Miss Mason and James Caan starring.

Last of the Red Hot Lovers is, says Simon, less autobiographical, "except that it's about all of us who 10 years ago realized that we were in our forties and had totally missed out on the sexual revolution. It's about a man who runs a fish restaurant and suddenly realizes that half his life is over before he's started to live it; he even lies in bed practising how to die. But all my plays are in certain ways autobiographical, I guess because I once read somewhere that if you wanted to be a successful playwright you had to begin by writing about what you knew best. I figured that was me, and I've somehow never stopped. When you're a writer everyone is at your mercy and the curious thing is that people almost never recognize themselves; my father went to his grave thinking that *Come Blow Your Horn* was about his best friend."

There have of course been a few disasters along the way; around the time of his first wife's death Simon came up with two extremely serious plays, one built around some short stories by Chekhov (*The Good Doctor*) and the other around the bible story of Job (*God's Favourite*), neither of which suited Broadway's preconceived notion of what he should be delivering annually, though Simon himself is rather fonder of them than of such machine-made hits of his as *Star-Spangled Girl*:

"In the end, all comic writers bear the brunt of not being taken seriously when they write in comedy about serious subjects, but I would argue that *Chapter Two* is despite its gags a play about death and rebirth; if people come in expecting a comedy and go out having found something else, so much the better. The great thing is to surprise them, which is maybe why I've now got on the typewriter a nineteenth-century Russian farce, an old-fashioned 1940s movie for Goldie Hawn and a new play about a man meeting his daughter for the first time in 18 years. People seem to think that if I do maybe one play and one film a year I'm working very hard; believe me, nothing in my life has been such hard work as 26 episodes of *Sergeant Bilko* every year. After you've done that, the rest just seems like an extended holiday."

Simon and Marsha Mason (and his two daughters by his first marriage) now commute between New York and Los Angeles where Simon writes and Marsha acts, often in scripts by her husband. On film, they have a happy knack of turning even their failures into box-office gold:

"I once wrote a film for Marsha and Robert de Niro called *Bogart Slept Here* and after seven days' shooting and a million dollars spent the director Mike Nichols said it was impossible and he cancelled the whole project. Then, later, the studio were trying to set it up again with a different director and they were auditioning actors, and Richard Dreyfuss came in and played a scene with Marsha and I suddenly realized that though *Bogart Slept Here* wasn't any good I could write a film for Dreyfuss and Marsha and that became *Goodbye Girl*."

After *Red Hot Lovers* and the film of *Chapter Two* (due at Christmas) London will also be seeing Neil Simon's latest musical, *They're Playing Our Song*, a two-hander starring Tom Conti and the original Broadway star Lucie Arnaz. This again is, if not autobiographical, then at least biographical in that it is a semi-lifelike account of the relationship of the show's own composer-lyricist team, Marvin Hamlisch and Carole Bayer Sager:

"I seem to have better luck over here with the musicals than the straight plays; maybe it's because British audiences are still impressed by the dazzle of a Broadway score where they still expect their comedies to be like Ayckbourn or Coward. But I think generally things are getting better for American playwrights in London: television seems to have narrowed the Atlantic, and at the Criterion we're getting laughs on lines that would have seemed incomprehensible over here even five years ago."

Sheridan Morley

picture by Brian Harris

Portraitist with a Byronic brush

Sir Thomas Lawrence
National Portrait Gallery

Thirties
Hayward Gallery

John Flaxman, R.A.
Royal Academy

The Art of Hollywood
Victoria and Albert Museum

Portrait of Arthur Atherley as an Etonian by Sir Thomas Lawrence (detail)

Since the days when Duveen was busily, expensively selling American millionaires ready-made ancestors for their walls, the stock of the classic British portrait painters has gone down considerably. When they are liked, it tends to be for something other than their portraits: Gainsborough's figures-in-landscape, for instance. Which makes things peculiarly hard on a painter like Sir Thomas Lawrence, who rarely strayed outside the portrait, and when he did stray—as with his 1797 Academy picture *Satan Summoning His Legions*—achieved a conspicuous lack of success with critics and public. If we are going to like Lawrence, it has to be for his portraits or nothing.

Even in the heyday of American buying, he was never so much favoured as Gainsborough, Romney or his master Reynolds. One might wonder why. The period, being nearer, was perhaps less appealing, less . . . well, ancestral. But also, as we can see at once, looking round this splendid conspectus of his painting, ideally suited in style and scale to the National Portrait Gallery's Carlton House Terrace annexe. There was something curiously hard and unyielding about his best work, something which defied sentimentalization. This might not be the superficial impression: there are, heaven knows, more than enough simpering enamelled Misses and angelic children like young Master Lambton in red velvet, neatly poised halfway between *The Blue Boy* and *Bubbles*. But, however vociferously these were admired in his own day, they can never be seen now as central to his talent.

There is, indeed, something Byronic about Lawrence's art. The strengths and weaknesses of his portraiture, at least, are very close to the strengths and weaknesses of Byron's. He is very good at portraying crisply practical old women, beyond vanity. He has a weakness for heroes. His beautiful young women are frankly bores. His men are manly, cunning, weak, foolish, flamboyant according to the occasion; but are always very palpably there, observed with a precision which can be tough or ironic but is seldom indulgent. The famous contents of the Waterloo Room at Windsor, three paintings from which are prominent here, represent the height of his brilliance and the depth of his penetration.

The grand and handsome *Archduke Charles of Austria* contrasts sharply with the pudgy and vacillating *Alexander I, Tsar of Russia*, and both can be set against the surely rather ironic image of a jolly, worldly, slightly sly *Pope Pius VII*. The wonder is that Lawrence could be (perhaps unconsciously) so truthful in his depictions of famous and important men, and still have the likenesses generally approved by the sitters, their relatives and friends.

These days Lawrence, if familiar at all, tends to be known through historial rather than aesthetic interest. A show like this—no doubt the most comprehensive and representative ever assembled—is bound to be both a voyage of discovery and an essay in rehabilitation. It must be said at once that Lawrence wins hands down over Lely, the subject of last year's equivalent winter show at the National Portrait Gallery. Lely turned out on further acquaintance to be just about as (mildly) interesting as one had always imagined, but certainly no more. Lawrence gains enormously from being seen in bulk and in chronological order. Even his most famous pictures, like the full-length *Prince Regent* in Garter robes, stand up admirably to close critical scrutiny, and many of the less familiar images of less notable persons are discoveries indeed. Look at *Georgina, Lady Apsley*, bent over her sewing—a surprisingly modest, domestic image—or at *Arthur Atherley as an Etonian*, an imperious young pup with just a saving touch of insecurity.

Every now and then there comes along an exhibition which sets out to surprise by fine excess. *Thirties*, at the Hayward until January 13, is one such: there seems to be so much of everything, cramming the gallery to the last corner with art—or more-or-less-art, for who is going to quarrel about the inclusion of the *Bluebird*? The life of the decade is approached most directly by way of the superb range of news photographs on the top floor, among which those of James Jarché stand out as in the class of Cartier-Bresson, whether or not they would fit comfortably into *The Family of Man*. But elsewhere the tone of the times is captured with equal vividness through indirection. In particular the catholic collection of paintings, divided down the middle into conservative/academic and advanced, comes up at this distance of time with an astonishingly uniform and coherent image.

The feeling of the period is so palpable that other considerations, such as whether a painter favours representational or abstract, surrealist or superreal, fade into insignificance, and all one remembers are some very memorable paintings, often from less familiar painters such as Glyn Philpot or James Cowie. But one realizes also that the Thirties were a golden age for printed fabrics and woven textiles, a stunningly innovative moment in the art of the poster and productive of some of the best English book-design ever.

John Flaxman was not at all cosy either; he would probably have fitted very well into the Thirties had he been transported there by some chronological aberration. But, because his art is chilly and formal, that certainly does not mean that it is lacking in passion. Looking round the Royal Academy's comprehensive display of his drawings, illustrations and smallest sculptures, for Wedgwood china or metalwork (obviously, short of ravaging a few churches, it would be difficult to represent anything larger directly), one often has a similar feeling to that given by the abstracts of Mondrian, of turbulent emotion kept in check, but only just, by rigorous control of the formal surface.

One by one the shadowy, unsung contributors to the art of the film are being brought out to be recognized. Now it is the turn of the designer. *The Art of Hollywood*, at the Victoria and Albert Museum until January 24, concentrates on nine of the biggest names, placing them in their context in the history of the film, showing their original designs (where available) as well as photographs and even filmclips to illustrate how they were realized on screen, and indicating just how much—or sometimes how little—they did. This last is really the vexed question which this show brings us significantly nearer to solving. We can see for ourselves how William Cameron Menzies, the man for whom the title "Production Designer" was invented, designed not only the sets for *Gone With the Wind*, but laid out the whole look of the film shot-by-shot, providing a blueprint that the many directors just followed. The same with Anton Grot and *Mildred Pierce*: the whole visual side, and even the editing pattern, was his invention.

At the other end of the scale, it is doubtful if Cedric Gibbons, though his name is on every MGM film for more than 30 years, ever actually designed anything himself after about 1924; he was just a brilliant administrator.

John Russell Taylor

The ghosts of childhood

The Turn of the Screw
London Coliseum; Eastbourne

La Bohème
Covent Garden

Is it the anniversary syndrome that has turned 1979 into so copious a celebration of Benjamin Britten's *The Turn of the Screw*, first performed 25 years ago? Scottish Opera has revived its own, highly laudable interpretation at the Edinburgh Festival. Welsh National Opera has been showing another production, derived from one for Wexford Festival. Last week two more were unveiled, in London and Eastbourne respectively by English National Opera and (celebrating its tenth birthday) Kent Opera. Why, unless for silver jubilee reasons, so many turns of Britten's screw since last this page was printed?

There are practical reasons: *The Turn of the Screw* is a useful repertory piece, requiring no more than six or seven singers and 13 instrumentalists. The action of Henry James's ghost-story involves 15 changes of scene, with only one interval, preferably done quite simply. Horror stories nowadays appeal to audiences at least as much as in times past, especially where children are involved.

The ENO production, now to be seen in repertory at the London Coliseum in Jonathan Miller's new production, breaks fresh ground. It exploits to the full a high, wide and deep uncurtained open stage without sacrificing stage-orchestra balance, or the audibility of words, or the oppressive nature of the tale. The intention is clearly to increase the impact, not to make it more cosmic, but to bring home the apparent physical vastness of a child's surroundings, and thus suggest how hardly children's curious behaviour will be comprehended by elders who have forgotten the relative dimensions of childhood.

At the Coliseum the acting area is diamond-shaped, jutting over the orchestra pit. The wall-screens behind, at first silver-grey, like the floor, become transparent to show the huge façade of Bly, without and within, even that of the local church. Children judge everything in terms of either good or bad, and accordingly the whole spectacle is monochrome. Miller's production also suggests that the children have not so much been perverted by ghostly influence, but have rejected the society of living adults, and turned away to the alluring world of their ghostly friends. For us Graham Clark's Quint is a seedy, shifty, shabby figure, with a hard, fiendish allure in eye and voice, Rosalind Plowright's Miss Jessel a lost, distraught wraith with passion in every utterance. They have more of freedom and enchantment to offer the charges of Mrs Grose and the Governess. When Flora is taken away from Bly and Miles dies in the Governess's arms, they do not think themselves saved but defeated by the machinations of ordinary grown-ups.

Meryl Drower as Kent's Governess

The ENO production is dominated by Eileen Hannan's tormented, nobly sung Governess and Ava June's cosy, youngish Housekeeper, but only as victims of their charges. They are Michael Ginn, whose confident, demonically possessed Miles, outwardly a young boy but within past all childish things, is a terrible feat of histrionic skill, sung with uncommon strength and musicality; and Iris Saunders, whose Flora betrays spiritual possession in a face of fearsome, screwed-up malevolence whenever grown-ups loom. Lionel Friend conducts an appreciative, not altogether secure orchestra, and cares greatly for qualities of structure and ensemble.

These are as much in evidence, and more precisely adjusted, in Kent Opera's version conducted by Roger Norrington. Kent Opera uses real children in both parts: Rebecca Platt, as Flora, is more subtly malign, like a girl who has learned to put a virtuous face on her calculated naughtiness; Sam Monck is a highly sophisticated Miles, a precocious society beau who adopts childish behaviour as a cover for the secret path into which Quint has guided him. Meryl Drower successfully impersonates the Governess as a terrified mouse attempting desperately to assume the bravery of a mother-lioness.

Nicholas Hytner is in charge here of a deliberately miniature production, with minimal settings by Douglas Heap, apt for touring. The ghosts are, musically and visually, more indefinite—usually seen half-veiled behind the backcloth, it is a disappointment when they take the forestage at the beginning of the second act. Neil Jenkins's Quint is sung with a withdrawn force, precisely how we may imagine a ghost.

The revival of *La Bohème* at the Royal Opera House is chiefly notable for the Mimi and the conductor, both new to the production by John Copley. At the helm is Carlos Kleiber, moulding Puccini's music with infinite subtlety of inflexion and pace. In the first act he seemed to be applying the interpretative *maquillage* too ardently, even with self-indulgence: hardly a bar of music was allowed to flow naturally. From the second act onwards the poetry began to flow freely, and in its wake the gently release of the tear-duct, *sine qua non* for an acceptable account of *La Bohème*.

Ileana Cotrubas's Mimi takes a welcome place in this production. She sings the set-pieces with a winsome lyrical intensity that ranges from intimacy to passion, and heightens conversation with eloquence without breaking the illusion of spontaneity. Hers is, in any case, a spirited Mimi, not drawn into romantic attachment so much as pitching herself enthusiastically into the promise of a desirable *amour*. Sona Ghazarian's Musetta is not an all-out vamp either, but rather a high-spirited, attractive girl. The male bohemians are already familiar here.

William Mann

Edward the third

Panorama
BBC 1

Michael Ratcliffe

"He's tougher than hell", remarked an associate. "He's got two dead brothers, and he's got the money". There was no reason to revise that view of Edward Kennedy after Michael Cockerell's sober but entertaining first shot in Panorama's coverage of the Presidential campaign for 1980. The choice for the Democratic Party appears to rest between an incumbent with milky blue eyes that never focus on anything and a challenger with green ones which, in close-up, appear to be concentrating very hard indeed not on what he is saying but on what he must remember to say next. Turning her head like a mischievous panda later on in the programme, the First Mother remarked that the South had always supported Kennedys before, but would not vote for this one because he was nuts. "Why do you thing he's nuts?" asked Cockerell. "For running!" replied the panda, with evident joy.

What with the Iron Magnolia and the Florida Caucus and the tiny speck of non-malignant cancer on Teddy's skin, not to mention Teresa Brewer's revolting campaign song and yet another trip to Martha's Vineyard and Chappaquiddick, it could not be said that the level of political debate was high but, if Kennedy's "socialistic" ideas were not given credit as a positive, vote-getting side to his political character, neither was his shooting from the mouth on issues like Northern Ireland more than lightly flicked in. *The Kennedy Challenge* was about early moves in the game.

Kennedy's were all on home ground. When he was being roguish in Philadelphia, his techniques reminded me of Hitler's at ease with a home crowd in Munich, and when he gets excited his face swells and goes red like Franz-Josef Strauss's. There was indeed something oddly Bavarian, rather than Irish, about his whole performance. The Carters were bullish on a black, photogenic autumn day in Miami and the President displayed all his light touch of steel and genius for embarrassment on opening the Kennedy Memorial Library in Boston before the entire Camelot clan. Most ominous was Chicago, where Jane Byrne welcomed him with a kiss to a full-size indoor replica of a Mississippi steamboat surrounded by ladies of Illinois affecting to be Southern belles. Jimmy said you were never alone in Chicago, or something like that, and Mayor Byrne agreed, before going off to throw in her lot with the other man. A key moment, perhaps, in the 12 months to come.

Tomorrow: Alan Bates and Siman Gray talk to John Higgins about their third partnership, in Stage Struck; and David Robinson previews the first week of the London Film Festival.

Why London will lament its Open Space

The Father
Open Space

Julius Caesar
Royal Shakespeare

From the Greek
Arts, Cambridge

Over the years I have written several needless obituaries for the Open Space Theatre, and I hope this one will be as premature as the others. But, as things stand, the company will be out of its Euston Road premises by next month, with no immediate prospect of being rehoused. Promises have been made, but priorities are apt to get shuffled as time goes by, so before the company slides out of sight it is worth stating the obvious once again: namely that no small London house approaches the Open Space's achievement in combining variety of work with the development of its own style. And that its disappearance would leave a gap that no other theatre could fill.

Charles Marowitz's outgoing production of Strindberg's *The Father* is a good reminder of what the Space has to give, though the theatre's regular customers may be surprised to find a popular classic played pretty well intact. Aside from the opening tableau of the Captain in his strait-jacket observing acts of treachery by his womenfolk, the production sticks to Strindberg's narrative line. But the cumulative effect is no less radical than Marowitz's Shakespearian cut-ups, in the sense that it compels attention to the content as if to a brand new work.

Past productions of *The Father* have generated an atmosphere of apoplexy. The Captain and Laura confront each other as two outsize monsters. It is clear from the start that he is going to blow a fuse and the one image you take away is his frenzied assault with the burning lamp. The air is too thick with bloodshot emotion for sober sense to get through. Taking full advantage of the intimate setting, Marowitz obliterates the gladiatorial flourishes and presents—as Strindberg's stage directions imply—a mortal combat between two long-practised antagonists who rarely need to raise their voices.

The first thing to be said of Denholm Elliott's and Diane Cilento's performances is that they entirely dispel the idea of Strindberg the paranoid sexist. These muted duels are absolutely true to married life: the partners have covered this same ground many times, they know each other's moves and even defend themselves by discussing their unending enmity in the tone of specialist academics. There is nothing of the domestic demon in Miss Cilento's quietly invulnerable Laura: and if Elliott's Captain conveys defeat from the start it is through the crumbling smile of an overgrown public schoolboy. His casual explosion against the Doctor is more appalling than anything he says to his wife.

The production changes key when madness enters the story. Having her husband committed is a new idea for Laura, and Marowitz signals this with a conspiratorial light change, but not at the expense of the subsequent debate which explores the issue of marriage as a business partnership and shows Strindberg characteristically leaping the time gap. For all its expressionist details, this is a production that honours the name of naturalism.

Something has gone badly wrong with Barry Kyle's production of *Julius Caesar* (Royal Shakespeare, Stratford-upon-Avon) quite apart from the lead conspirator's leg injury which occasioned its postponement a month ago. Indeed, the limp which James Laurenson brings to the role of Cassius is much the most distinctive feature of his performance, which merges all too unresistingly into the generalized picture of big-bearded republicans booming rebellion to an off-stage backing of fanfares and thunderclaps. As there are some good actors buried away in the anonymous draperies, Mr Kyle has prolonged their life-span, with the unhappy result that we see Casca and the other Roman notables turning up as biddable other ranks at Philippi: which leaves me wishing he had also spared Cinna the Poet from the full fury of the mob and let him hobble in as a mutilated spectre in the tent scene.

That scene at least does generate its accustomed power—thanks partly to Ben Kingsley's superbly splenetic Brutus (a smiling stoic visited by outbursts of hysterical wrath) and partly to the fact that the tent itself establishes a real location in Christopher Morley's diagrammatic set.

This consists of a sandpit acting area enclosed within a hinged crash-barrier and surmounted by two observation ladder lighting rigs. Whatever its metaphorical value, its physical effect is to diminish the Stratford stage and suggest a studio production dumped in the main house. It cramps the play instead of concentrating it; the battle scenes are reduced to individual duels (including a boxing match), and the mob assert their presence with well-drilled unison shouts arising out of dead silence. In Antony's funeral oration they even remain in darkness while a spot plays on the orator.

Set and production are certainly consistent, but their only positive contribution is to intensify the focus on the principals, among whom there is a distinct lack of heroic muscle, even from actors like John Woodvine (Caesar) and David Threlfall (a reedy Mancunian Antony) who have shown plenty of sinew in the season's earlier shows. Mr Kingsley apart, the performance I shall remember is Emma Williams's pugnacious Portia.

In *From the Greek* (Arts, Cambridge) Frederic Raphael presents a strife-torn family reunion in a desolate Arizona hotel, haunted by the memory of its former owner who died long before in a car crash leaving his widow and son to run the place. In scenes flashing back and forth over 25 years the plot thickens with filial hostilities, failing business, incest and the suggestion of murder; not to mention the fact that son Tony walks with a limp (never adequately explained), by which time the Oedipal penny has dropped. There are some good passages of angry comedy in the play where Mr Raphael departs from his model: but the enterprise of reconstructing Thebes in the Arizona desert has left him with a pile of bricks that fail to fit together. Jonathan Lynn's production offers a fierce, time-defying performance by Maxine Audley.

Recommendations for the month. — *Amadeus* (Olivier): the major British play of the year, a shared triumph for Peter Hall (director), Simon Callow and Paul Scofield (as Mozart and Salieri) and Peter Shaffer who has at last achieved a text as strong in its development as in its basic idea; *Middle Age Spread* (Lyric); *I Sent a Letter to my Love* (Greenwich); *Things That Go Bump in the Night* (Arts matinées): Outstanding play for the under tens, despite the title (translated from the German of Volker Ludwig), with performances and design (Bernard Culshaw) of matching quality.

Irving Wardle

William Rees-Mogg and Barry Fitzpatrick give their views of The Times dispute from opposite sides

The terrible price we have paid

'We decided that we would not go on producing our newspaper in a way which was obsolete, extravagant, wasteful and inefficient'

The purpose of The Times Newspapers negotiation was to achieve higher productivity through the introduction of new equipment, the reduction of manning and the elimination of unnecessary disputes. The agreements follow that policy. The use of new equipment has been agreed, though without journalists access at this stage, manning reductions have been agreed and the settlements provide both for a new disputes procedure and for the elimination of many matters which have caused trouble in the past. Obviously these gains depend on the agreements being successfully carried out.

The benefit can be measured. In the production areas Times Newspapers will have a 20 per cent reduction in manning and a 10 per cent increase in capacity. If 80 per cent of the work force produce 110 per cent of their previous output, the productivity per head rises by 37.5 per cent.

Such a productivity agreement is obviously of substantial benefit to the commercial future of our newspapers, *a benefit which will continue to grow* in future years as labour costs continue to rise. Equally they are of great benefit to the staff, whose pay has been brought from well below Fleet Street levels to the level of the higher, though not the highest, Fleet Street rates.

Had we been able to get such a settlement without suffering 50 weeks' suspension of publication we should have been entirely delighted with it. *The question that has to be asked is* why such a productivity agreement, to the benefit both of the company and its work force, took nearly two years to negotiate, including nearly a year of suspension of publication.

Some commentators have suggested that the benefits could have been achieved without any stoppage at all. There is no evidence to support that view. Indeed the company has been trying to negotiate some of the lesser benefits of the new agreements for years past. In at least one case we had been in discussion since the middle 1960s and such negotiations had been quite fruitless.

I do not put down the difficulty of negotiation to the element of ill will. A small number of trade union officials involved in the dispute hold *militant left-wing views to which they* are perfectly entitled. The majority do not. I could not see that the actual conduct of trade union negotiators was mainly determined by their political philosophies. Militants certainly do not see reality as I would see it, but their conduct was primarily determined by a competitive search for benefits for their members.

There were two main causes of the difficulty of negotiating such *obviously desirable agreements. One* was the structure of the trade unions, which gives effective veto power to each separate negotiating unit. We had to negotiate with 65 different chapels. Each chapel is autonomous. It is in effect a separate sovereign power seeking to maximize its own advantage relative both to the company and to all other chapels. Chapels are of course strongly influenced by the unions to which they belong and *by the national policies of those* unions, but in the end, as the NGA rule book states, it is the individual chapel that has to decide.

A major reconstruction of pay and productivity does therefore involve an exercise almost comparable to the problem of lining up a unanimous vote in the United Nations. You have to get all these sovereign chapels to agree not only that the settlement with them is in their interest, but that no other part of the settlement confers an unfair degree of benefit on any other chapel, and particularly that there is no undue benefit to the chapels whom they regard as their *traditional competitors in pay settlements.*

Repeatedly attempts to complete the settlement were frustrated by disputes over differentials; it was often impossible to give some chapels what they were asking for without causing other chapels to withdraw their consent.

The second difficulty is that Mr Michael Foot rigged British industrial law so that the balance *which ought to exist* between the employer and the trade unions has been totally destroyed. At every point the law puts the weapons into the hands of the trade unions while leaving them immune to the employers' reply. It takes much longer to reach reasonable agreement with unions because they know, and their members know, the position of strength they are in.

An employer finds that the combination of enshrined chapel or shop floor power with the union bias of the law makes outside help almost totally ineffective, even when the help comes from the trade union movement. Our productivity proposals were exactly in line with TUC policy. The TUC tried to help to reach a settlement. Mr Len Murray tried sincerely and tried hard. The TUC efforts were ineffective.

Our proposals were also in line with the policy of the Labour Government. Both Mr James Callaghan and Mr Albert Booth tried hard to help to reach a settlement. We were grateful for their assistance but that too was ineffective.

The Conservative Government's position is equally ineffective. They too want higher productivity. They do not believe in intervening in industrial disputes; that is quite sensible because their intervention would only add to the cost of settlements. They have decided not to alter the legal framework in any significant way; they are maintaining almost all the major features of Michael Foot's law. So they ask employers to fight the battle for higher productivity on a ground landscaped to give union power every possible advantage.

The negative attitude of most of the other newspapers is understandable but not to their advantage. I give *The Daily Telegraph* my *thanks for publishing an article of* mine *The Observer* commissioned, never even saw, but were too cowardly to print. Most newspapers think they cannot expect to get the productivity agreements we sought and obtained and that therefore they should not try. The most nearly comparable newspaper, the *Financial Times*, announced plans for introducing new technology and then took a board decision to withdraw the *plans because they thought it would* not be possible to reach agreement. They decided to remain inefficient. They have followed our lead in using new technology for statistical material, but that so far is all.

I recognize their difficulty but I think it is very alarming that Britain's leading business newspaper should have taken the decision not even to try to introduce modern methods of production. I do not see that *it will necessarily become easier* to introduce new technology in the composing room later on.

Indeed it becomes progressively more expensive and more difficult to move from Linotype to the electronic composing room, because of the need to buy out the piece rates of a Linotype composing room. In other houses these piece rates have already reached levels of £450 to £600 a week; a standard composing room rate related to such levels is already prohibitive. One of the disappointments of the coverage of our dispute in other newspapers was that no one compared the rates we agreed with the piece rates they themselves pay. Their analysis was less than frank

We decided—with the full support *of Lord Thomson and the International* Thomson Organisation—that we would not go on producing our newspaper in a way which was obsolete, extravagant, wasteful and inefficient. We felt that it was not fair either to the company, to its employees or to the nation to do so. We have paid a terrible price—the loss of nearly a year's publication permanently taken out of the record. We neither sought nor—heaven knows—received any assistance from Fleet Street. Yet I do not believe in the present competitive situation of Britain that it is an honourable thing for boards of directors to decide that they are not going to try to run their businesses efficiently. I am glad we have achieved higher productivity, even at this cost, and believe it can lead to better rather than worse relations with our staff, on whose quality everything depends.

William Rees-Mogg

Why both sides must change their attitudes

Unions generally find it difficult to get a fair hearing in the media; those working in newspapers are no exception. It is a sad fact that throughout *The Times* dispute, those of us responsible for representing the workforce involved have frequently been disappointed by the lack of coverage of the real issues, and the overemphasis of the more sensational aspects of the dispute.

A year ago when *The Sunday Times* and *The Times* suspended publication, new technology had only just begun to be an issue within the British Labour movement. The 1978 TUC conference will be remembered for Clive Jenkins's dramatic announcement of the arrival of the silicon chip.

What is disturbing is that since then the debate in the media concerning the effects of micro technology on society, with its cheapness and availability, has yet to show any real concern for the social dangers that arrive with its introduction. It has, in fact, so far been a one-sided discussion.

The plans announced by Times Newspapers last year were opposed for three good reasons:

1 They were hurriedly conceived and presented to the workforce as an ultimatum—accept these conditions for change or be dismissed.

2 The proposals contained no concessions other than redundancy *payments in return for* enormous job and skill losses in an industry that already had reducing job opportunities. There was a glaring absence of any social package that would provide for alternatives to alleviate the loss of work, such as shorter hours, more holidays, earlier retirement and new careers for those whose jobs would be replaced by the technology.

3 The strategy relied on abusing the readers, without whom the whole argument was meaningless—they punished you, the reader, as well as us, by suspending publication.

It was disagreement over these matters which I believe prolonged the dispute and led to many of the problems which have delayed settlement during the past 11 months

We have seen too often the price that has been paid by the nation as a result of a failure to evenly debate major issues in public. How many people would still choose to be mem*bers of the EEC? Were the im*plications of the changeover to containerization in the dock industry fully understood? Thirty-two ton lorries are now with us. It is now too late to have the debate on these and many other issues.

I make these points to draw attention to the fact that no discussion about micro technology and its *social impact* is really taking place and yet it will affect every man, woman and child in the country.

For reasons that are not entirely clear to me the public is being persuaded that new technology can only happen in a narrow technological and business fashion—the human implications are being ignored, international competitiveness is the issue.

I hope that the settlements reached at Times Newspapers, and the conditions and principles that some of them have secured, will eventually become widely understood and their direct bearing on other industries facing technological change be appreciated.

It is not my intention to dwell on the mistakes and attitudes of the past 11 months. Responsible leadership must be about the future, but I do regret that the £30m to £40m so far spent by Times Newspapers on the dispute does not represent a penny invested in either plant *or employees. It has simply* been money squandered. A fraction of it well-spent could have secured the new technology and many of the benefits and social improvements that we all want to see.

Of course unions and their members from time to time bear some responsibility for *interrupting newspaper produc*tion. In my experience, however, it is rare for this responsibility to be found solely on one side or the other.

We hope that Times Newspaper management is sincere in its declaration that it wants a better relationship with its staff in the future. There is an awful lot of hard work still to be done, and much of it will involve both sides changing *their attitudes at times, but no*where is it more important for the whole staff to believe they are working together than in a newspaper. If this intention can be maintained through the agreements, prospects for Times Newspapers can be very good indeed.

Our message to Times Newspapers therefore is simple:

Use the energy and expertize that exists on both sides to develop and expand our business.

Do not reject bold and imaginative solutions to the problems that new technology is creating.

Do not manage remotely. Listen to what we have to say rather than assume you are always right—employees are also people.

Finally, acknowledge that the real owner of a newspaper is the readers and that they have rights, too.

A newspaper belongs to the nation it exists for the whole community rather than the other way round. Use the opportunity of new technology to bring about a greater diversity of the press.

Barry Fitzpatrick

The author is chairman, all union liaison committee, Times Newspapers

Bernard Levin

Of Cripplers, Halt-Bringers and working men

Moreover, I see that my old friend A. Spokesman, this time *representing the Iron and Steel* Trades Confederation (the principal union in the industry) has given the details of his organization's plans for resisting the reductions and rationalizations determined upon by the management of the British Steel Corporation in order to save the industry from total ruin or in*definite further losses of* a million jimmy-o'-goblins a day, which ever shall be the sooner, and for that matter the more expensive. The programme so far announced includes a ban on overtime and a one-day strike, possibly followed by more of the same. Young Spokesman, announcing this excitingly original method of keeping the steel industry *going, observed—correctly,* I dare say—that "The overtime ban will cripple the industry and ultimately bring it to a halt", and added, in what I could not help feeling was something of an anticlimax, "Within a week it will have a tremendous impact".

Now that, you must admit, really is like old times. There is a Chinese proverb (for once not attributable to my Confucian ancestor, Lee Vin) which says "Do not burn down your house even to inconvenience your wife's mother", and I cannot help feeling that the rapid dispatch of a pokerwork version of it to the union's headquarters is now called for. Faced with the prospect of a crippled industry, the representative of the union concerned declares that in order to avoid this tragic development, his members are to take action to cripple the industry.

I considered the possibility that the lack of logic in the proposal had been spotted, but that the point of it was the staking of a claim by the union to a monopoly of any crippling that needed to be done. Perhaps, I thought, the steelworkers' union includes a Cripplers' Section, whose members insist that they, and they alone, are recognized as the traditional craftsmen in this field, and that no attempt to usurp their function by the management, or indeed by any other group of workers in the industry, can be permitted. The theory was given added force by the promise that the union was determined not merely to cripple the industry but to "bring it to a halt", which raised the possibility that there is also a Halt-Bringers Branch in this admirably eclectic organization, no less jealous of their ancient rights and privileges than their brother Cripplers.

In the end I rejected the idea (it would also have necessitated, in the light of the union spokesman's final comment, a Tremendous Impacters Group) as too improbable to be seriously entertained. And yet you will surely agree that the true explanation in this case is hardly the very first one that would naturally spring to mind. "I'm walking backwards for Christmas", sang Spike Milligan in his goon and salad days, but there was no suggestion that when he set out on this curious exercise he was standing on the edge of a cliff and facing inland. Yet that, roughly speaking, is the situation in which the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation finds itself, and it gives every sign of being positively eager to step smartly off with the right foot.

Now a highwayman who pointed the pistol at his own head and insisted that if the passengers in the stage-coach did not hand over all their money he would pull the trigger might be thought to have missed his vocation, and a union which, having materially contributed over the years to the ruin of the steel industry, now proposes by way of remedy for that state of affairs, to set about the task of ruining it, could likewise be held to be less than fully equipped for its chosen profession.

Many things, of course, have contributed to the decline of the British steel industry, including management failures, the terms of trade and an international decrease in the demand for the industry's products. Yet few, I think, will deny that a powerful additional push in the direction of the cliff edge has been provided by the overmanning and restrictive practices imposed and maintained by the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation. And when, finally, patience and/or the supply of other people's money ran out, and the closures were decided on, the only response of the union leaders was to proclaim their intention of taking action that can only result in further closures. (Would those who, having read this far, were about to write to me to denounce me as a callous brute who doesn't care about the fate of the unemployed steel-workers and their families, kindly send the letter instead to the union, preferably accompanied by a looking-glass.)

It may be that the steel-workers' union has invented an entirely new form of Luddism. Instead of smashing the machinery in the belief that it is putting them out of a job, its leaders are willing to go to any lengths to tend and care for it and see that it comes to no harm, even to the point of shrouding it in dust-sheets and standing guard over it lest some villain should creep in in the middle of the night and set it in motion. And in this refreshingly modern approach to an old problem (which itself gives the lie to the charge that *our unions are reluctant to* abandon methods that have long since been superseded) they are far from alone in the ranks of British industry.

And yet I cannot help noticing the results of the British Leyland ballot on the rationalization of that Cloaca Maxima of taxpayers' money. When the figures were announced, I heard a radio broadcast in which the union official who had been leading the opposition to the management's proposals, and who had just seen his advice rejected by *87 per cent* of the employees, commented on the outcome in that [illegible] whine employed by a certain kind of senior shop steward. Was he abashed? Did he regard this overwhelming vote as evidence that he had not been offering his comrades the best advice? Could the listener deduce from his words or demeanour that he was going away, if not to put his head in a bucket, then at least to think long and hard about his views, in case they should need adjusting or even replacing?

Not a whit; he defied augury. He was full of rebuke for the majority who had voted for the proposals, full of his own rectitude in advising them not to, full of certainty that they would rue the day. And when, therefore, hot on the heels of the British Leyland decision *by the workers*, there came the contrary BSC decision *by the workers' leaders*, I could not help wondering what might happen if the employees of the steel industry were to hold a secret ballot on *their* management's proposals for reducing their numbers and in other ways making the industry more competitive and potentially profitable. No doubt conditions in the two industries are very different; possibly the relations between union leaders and union led are also not strictly comparable. But I do not claim that 87 per cent of the BSC workforce would vote as their BL counterparts did; knowing what a dusty answer gets the soul when hot for certainty in this our life, I only wondered what might be the outcome of such a replica of the choice offered to the car-workers.

It is an important principle of English law that silence is not to be taken as consent; if I send you a reply-paid telegram offering to buy your wife for £10,000 in cash, and adding that if I do not receive a refusal of my offer I shall consider it accepted and arrive to take possession, the courts will not uphold my claim if you ignore the telegram. (In, that is, the unlikely event that the Post Office has succeeded in delivering it.)

Surely what is sauce for the wife is sauce for the shop-steward. Perhaps union leaders who gaily announce that they are about to cripple an industry that many would think is quite sufficiently crippled already, and possibly a bit over, may not be quite so closely in touch with *the feelings* of their members as they think. Perhaps the fact that the BSC employees did not, when they read their leaders' words, immediately rise in their tens of thousands to repudiate them need not mean that they applauded them. It may be that they were—indeed are—only waiting to be asked to make known with their votes feelings quite different from those attributed to their silence. It is quite possible, in other words, that the British workingman is not quite so stupid as his elected union representatives would have us all believe.

Continuing our series of new words and new meanings

Bored with Board

The classic words on returning after involuntary and disagreeable absence are: "*Dicebamus hesterna die*". They were adapted by William Connor in 1945, when he came back from the war to resume his column in the *Daily Mirror*: "As I was saying when I was interrupted, it is a powerful hard thing to please all the people all the time."

The originator of the defiant phrase was not Cassandra, but Fray Luis de León, the sixteenth century Spanish poet and mystical theologian. He fell into the black books of the Inquisition for translating the Song of Solomon and criticizing the text of the Vulgate, and was sent down without the option for five years.

When he was let out, he resumed his lectures at Salamanca University in the salty elegance of a learned tongue. "We were saying yesterday." They are suitably dignified words for *The Times* after our recent indignities. *Dicebamus hesterna die.*

There has been time in this foul *Times*less year to meditate in union meetings on the new jargon of industrial negotiation. What and whence, for example, is this board across which wage increases are now legitimately demanded, and occasionally obtained?

As John Stuart Mill observed priggishly about the wages of sinecure: "The bad workmen, who form the majority of operatives in many branches of industry, are decidedly of opinion that bad workmen ought to receive the same wages as good."

We all know that the idiom means that whatever cake is being divided, whether baked of salary increases or tax cuts, will be shared equally among all of us; so reducing, with any luck, base envy. But how come? Is the board in the metaphor blackboard, chessboard, notice board, skateboard, or springboard? Do we imagine the cake on an archaic table about to be cut up by a knife as nice as Solomon's? Or is the money, in its pretty new slang metaphor of bread, pictured on a bread*board waiting to be sliced?*

At first meditation by a Briton in a union meeting the most probable board seems to be the boardroom table around which negotiations are conducted.

The answer is odder and prettier. Across the board is quite recent mug's or punter's jargon from the United States. To bet across the board is to place a combination bet on a horse to win, place, or show, which last in the language of Harry the Horse means to finish third, or at least third, which I thought was the same as a place.

This complicated way of providing for the sleek old age of bookies was first noticed by the watchful Webster in an addendum in 1950. It was adopted into the language of wage-bargaining, first in the United States and then in the United Kingdom, to mean embracing all classes, categories, or employees without exception. It has now become so familiar and useful a modish phrase that it is difficult to imagine how anybody negotiated for a general wage increase before some company executive or union official took a day away from the smoke-filled boardroom about 20 years ago to play expensive permutations on the pari-mutuel machine. But, of course, anybody did.

Across the board used judiciously is a valuable addition to the vocabulary of TUCSpeak and CBInglish. It has an engaging origin. But it is just possible that we have become so fond of it that we are turning it into a dead cliché, that passes in the ear and through the mind without causing a ripple.

Philip Howard

LONDON DIARY

Changing chairs at the FO

Dipping a tentative toe, after all these months, back into diplomatic waters, I find some interesting redeployments in the higher reaches of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Sir Donald Maitland, the logical man to have sent to Washington had the eccentric decision not been taken to pluck Sir Nicholas Henderson from retirement to succeed Mr Peter Jay as ambassador there, has left Brussels, where he was the United Kingdom's permanent representative to the EEC. Sir Donald is to be deputy to the permanent under secretary, Sir Michael Palliser.

This was a new Grade I post created for Sir Antony Duff after his return to London in 1975 following a very successful spell as High Commissioner in Nairobi. Sir Antony was with Sir Michael Palliser, leading the FCO team in the con*tinuing Zimbabwe-Rhodesia* talks in London until obliged to go to hospital for a hernia operation.

An immensely able and genial man, he has been tipped as a possible governor to steer Zimbabwe-Rhodesia through fresh elections. He would normally be due to retire next February.

But leaving aside doubts about his health, the fact is that the choice of governor depends on the type of settlement. If there is a full ceasefire, a substantial political figure will be required. If the fighting goes on, the poisoned chalice might pass to an official or ex-governor.

To complete the change of *diplomatic chairs at the FCO*, Mr Michael Butler, previously the deputy under secretary responsible for economic affairs, has gone to bat for Britain in Brussels, and has been succeeded in London by Lord Bridges, son of the former Secretary to the Cabinet, who is widely if equivocally described as "the perfect civil servant".

Occidental Express

Here is a delectable prospect for merchant bankers, craft union operatives, accountants, moonlighting plumbers and other *anciens et nouveaux riches*: Mr James Sherwood, the *Kentucky-reared*, Yale-educated, London-based President of Sea Containers—pioneers in the design and use of container ships—is to re-create the heyday of the Orient Express in a train which will ply twice weekly from Victoria Station, London, to Venice, via Dover, Dunkirk, Paris and Milan, and back.

There will be 18 coaches, all ex-Orient Express, Pullman and Wagon-Lits, and some compartments will have a private bathroom with shower. The coaches, acquired over a two-year period, are currently being restored to their old splendour — by marquetry and other specialists at Irun, in Spain, and Carnforth in Yorkshire.

The food will be equally highly tooled: kitchen and service will be in the hands of the Cipriani Hotel, on the Venetian island of Giudecca, a refuge for the fastidious rich which Mr Sherwood bought from the Guinness brewing family in 1976.

Mr Sherwood, who is 45, has an English wife with a PhD, lives in the Boltons, Kensington, and publishes a Discriminating Guide to London ("fine dining and shopping") every other year. No need to rush yet for tickets for his London-Venice sybarites' special: the service will *not* open till spring 1981. The price is likely to be adjacent to that of a first class air ticket, currently £370 return.

Marks and Churchill

One might think that Sir Winston Churchill and Marks and Spencer had little in common—before, that is, today's publication by M & S of a picture biography of Churchill.

In fact, 50 years ago, shortly after M & S went public, Churchill bought £3,000 worth of their shares. Unfortunately he had to sell them 10 years later when he fell on hard times (so hard that he actually put Chartwell up for sale, in the columns of *The Times*, naturally).

Had he been able to retain his shares—as he did his home—they would have been worth well over £300,000 to his descendants today.

The new picture book, with a short text by his biographer Martin Gilbert, contains many unpublished photos. One shows Churchill lunching with his publishers in the 1930s, and lighting up a cigar.

Charming though it is, it gave the great man little pleasure: he had a thing about press pictures taken at lunches and meals, especially those catching informal moments. This dislike led him to write a letter to *The Times* in November, 1937, denouncing the "discourteous practice" whereby photographers "walk around the room taking unexpected close-up snapshots".

This was "an abuse" *which*, he wrote, "should surely be brought to an end". He added: "I recently saw a photograph of President Roosevelt with his mouth half open in the act of eating and drinking".

There will, I am credibly informed, be no press photographers at today's launching lunch.

Land of hope...

People really do exist who still admire the British. One of them is Herr Manfred Rommel, Mayor of Stuttgart (an elective and influential office) and son of the "good" German general.

Herr Rommel, who is 50, bespectacled, pipe-smoking, yet amusing, has been in London to study inner city development and traffic control systems. Dining with him, I felt my faith in the old country rising like a successful soufflé.

Herr Rommel admires, *inter alia*, the continuity of our values, our interest in history (all those biographies), the straightforward way we tackle problems, and our serious newspapers.

He sees something of a spiritual crisis in the Federal Republic. "For 30 years we have tried to replace morals by laws", he said. "The younger generation think their elders are interested in nothing but money and careers. The young want the economy to be their servant, not their master. They want to believe their personalities can grow, even if the economy doesn't".

Visiting the Commons, Herr Rommel admired the brevity of the Government's answers to questions—and the absence of television cameras. Their presence in the Bundestag has, he believes, discouraged genuine debate and encouraged declarations tailored to television's needs, and often fed to reporters in advance.

Roger Berthoud

Bored
With
Board

TIMES PAST
THE TIMES
New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE SPARKS ARE FALLING ON THE GUNPOWDER

The Times Newspapers stoppage arose out of the management's proposals for a complete range of productivity agreements, and was certainly influenced by the belief that British industry can only survive if there is a change, indeed a revolutionary change, in productivity. In our own affairs we have achieved agreements which do provide for much higher productivity; in general terms productivity per man will be more than thirty per cent higher, we have agreements to introduce advanced electronic equipment, and pay will be at the top end of the Fleet Street scale, but not outside it. The significance of these agreements, and the consequences of not trying to reach such agreements, can be shown by one comparison. By 1981 it will very possibly cost *The Financial Times*, at piece rates on the continued use of obsolete equipment, as much to set a news column as it will be costing *The Times* on electronic machines to set a page.

It was of course a year of agony to go through. If at the beginning we had foreseen that the stoppage would last fifty weeks, and then would only be settled within a few hours of a final deadline, it must be doubtful whether we would have gone ahead. Yet the alternative was a miserable one. Without a willingness to press the question home, it would not have been possible to negotiate the new agreements. The evidence for that is that the rest of Fleet Street, which is on average more overmanned than we were—and with the exception of the Mirror Group does not have any comprehensive introduction of the new technology—has not even tried to negotiate comparable agreements.

Protectionists

Yet during our absent year it has not been the productivity of Fleet Street but that of Britain which has become the essential question. Fleet Street does not face foreign competition; it is placed by natural circumstances in the position in which the protectionists want to put the whole of British industry. National newspapers can therefore survive at an even lower level of comparative productivity than the rest of Britain. Yet the Fleet Street disease is only the British disease in a more acute form.

Indeed while we have been away our warnings about the consequences of low British productivity have increasingly been fulfilled. The fight for the survival of British Leyland continues, and no one could do more than Sir Michael Edwardes to try to save that company. But despite the ballot vote in favour of redundancies, it remains a fight against heavy odds. The crisis of British Leyland stems from low productivity, with output per man a fraction of that achieved by their main international competitors. Low productivity and irregular production have resulted in low investment, and low investment has contributed further to low productivity.

Annihilation

The same threat hangs over shipbuilding and steel. In all three industries, cars, shipbuilding and steel, British output per man is probably no more than a third of the normal international competitive level. Indeed that seems to be the crisis point. Even efficient British firms are usually overmanned by between 50 and 100 per cent; they survive because the British standard of living and therefore of wages is below the average of our competitors. Inefficient British firms are often overmanned by 200 per cent and upwards; they tend to disappear.

In the 1980s this disparity of productivity will probably become much greater. A technological revolution is taking place which substitutes electronic for mechanical systems; in specific cases it can give an increase in productivity per man of several hundred per cent in a single jump. The introduction of these systems is dependent on trade union agreements. Yet if we take British productivity as 100, and American, German or Japanese as 200, and then multiply our competitors' productivity by, say, five, to allow for the general adoption of electronic methods, we are left with productivity ratios of 10:1. Such ratios are not maintainable, and where they apply, the low productivity mechanical British industry will be replaced by its high productivity electronic foreign competitors. It is not just the end, it is annihilation.

How could it be otherwise? Customers want good service; they want to be able to buy a good product, with reliable delivery, at a fair price. Even in a period of buoyant world trade, reasonable productivity is necessary if these requirements are to be met. As we are entering a period of recession of world trade, competition becomes more intense. The world-wide shift from mechanical to electronic technology offers opportunities to raise productivity and quality which our competitors take and we reject. Britain is left competing with obsolete equipment and gross overmanning against modern electronic equipment and tight manning standards. That is suicide.

Such is the reality of the matter, and it is the lack of a sense of reality in Britain that is particularly disturbing. This was apparent in *The Times* dispute. Even some journalists, even on occasion journalists with a professional knowledge of industry, seemed to feel a resentment at the idea of higher productivity, rather than welcoming it. It is not for us to criticize the coverage of other newspapers except in one respect. The majority of the comment showed either ignorance or even more astonishing complacency about the situation they themselves were in. It was like men on a burning ship watching a shipmate swimming ashore through dark currents, and saying, "Look at the poor fellow—he is liable to be drowned, and he is certainly getting wet". Beneath their feet the sparks are falling on the gunpowder.

In the end only efficient businesses survive; at any stage it is efficient businesses which pay the highest wages. Efficiency requires that the resources of the business should be used as well as possible; in particular it is wicked to waste people and their work, for work is mankind's chief resource. To achieve efficiency it is necessary to welcome change and new techniques. A manager who wastes labour is letting down not just his shareholders, but the people who work for him, and more broadly the nation; he is unpatriotic. He puts his employees jobs at risk; he makes it impossible for them to earn as high pay as they would otherwise get, or perhaps to earn anything at all.

Yet this is not how the British think. The British view is that jobs are absolutely scarce, which of course in a low productivity industry they soon become. If jobs are scarce, they argue, the best thing to do is to impose them on the employer and to make him employ more people than he needs. New techniques destroy old jobs to build new ones, so we reject new technology.

Financial base

The problem of productivity is normally seen in terms of industry and of competitiveness in export markets. The problem extends however into services, and particularly into public service. It is notorious that spending on most public services has risen, both in nominal and in real terms, but that the public find no improvement in benefit; we are not better taught or cared for, though expenditures on education and health have risen greatly. Now the Government are trying to stabilize public expenditure in real terms, and the public believe, probably correctly, that this will mean a cut in the real quality of the services. That is because productivity is still falling.

If the National Health Service ever does collapse, it will certainly be because productivity has failed. It may be because of the failure of productivity in industry, whose success is the financial base for all our public services. It may be because the productivity of the service itself falls too low. There are problems of productivity in the operations of the service; a child with a heart murmur will be examined on average more than six times by different doctors before reaching the consultant to whom he is referred. There are still greater problems of low productivity in support services. We are in danger of moving from a hospital service primarily staffed by doctors and nurses to one primarily staffed by porters, cleaners and cooks. This shift of emphasis from principals to support staff can already be seen at the National Theatre or Covent Garden, where it is the low productivity and high pay of sceneshifters which raises the cost of productions, not that of actors or musicians. "Did you see the Ring? Weren't the sceneshifters magnificent, a most moving performance?"

The danger is therefore a double one. Britain is already an industrial country with such low industrial productivity that we are rapidly becoming disindustrialized; we have a welfare system which has such low productivity that we have the choice between abandoning our welfare priorities or allowing welfare expenditure to consume too much of our national resources. Either way, low productivity is actually threatening our existing standard of living, let alone our capacity to increase it. Low productivity is the central issue of our political life, as it underlies all the others; it is the issue of our national future.

Many factors, including social attitudes and the effects of inflation, help to account for the low productivity of Britain relative to our main competitors, but there is one prime cause, which is the destruction of the free market in labour. Broadly speaking, productivity matches the degree to which men are free to sell their labour in the best market, to obtain the full price they individually are worth. Only if rewards are proportionate to output, can an economy maximize output. In countries where workers are very free, as in the United States or Germany, productivity is at its highest. In what might be termed capitalist closed-shop economies, such as Britain, productivity is only about half as high. In communist countries, productivity is only half of the closed-shop group; there is no doubt that the Soviet Union, with wholly regimented labour, is much less efficient than Britain.

Historic divisions

It is unfortunately not realistic to hope that higher productivity can come from the unions. Union power depends on restricting the free market in labour; the closed shop or the union dominated shop are natural trade union ambitions. Indeed they add to union power in the same degree that they lower productivity. Yet the inevitable effect of closing the labour market is to make it impossible to raise productivity to its maximum, or even to a level at which our industries can survive. Multiple closed shops operating together, reflecting arbitrary or historic divisions of labour and obsolete craft technologies, make competitive efficiency impossible. The old technologies have a will to live, but from the nation's point of view their survival is not compatible with that of the industries they dominate.

There are three political approaches to a resolution of this problem. The left want to carry socialism further and complete the structure of a commanding socialist state, allied to dominant trade unions. That is the objective of Mr Benn and the NEC of the Labour Party. The effect on Britain's standard of living could only be catastrophe. The centre, moderate Labour, Liberals and moderate Conservatives, hope to contain the problem, because they believe that it is not possible to confront it. They may be correct in that view, but all they offer is catastrophe in slow motion. Mrs Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe believe in trying to reverse the process, and so far as Treasury measures can help to restore reality—tax cuts, ending exchange control—they have been taken.

The Government deserve to be supported for what they are doing, particularly perhaps by those who are moderates, who should recognize that this is not a question of preference, but a matter of national economic survival. The market is the only force powerful enough to have any chance of curing the British disease. The Government can perhaps be criticized on two grounds. Mrs Thatcher's administration is better at policy than at persuasion; it is highly motivated without being sufficiently motivating.

Immunity

There is a cause to be taken to the country. If on *The Times* we had been able to rely on an informed public opinion, our agreements would not have required fifty weeks, not fifty days, not fifty minutes. People would have been pressing for higher productivity as the only conceivable way to raise pay and secure jobs. It is the employer who does not instal new technologies against whom reasonable men would strike. There is as yet no such informed opinion.

The Government should also face the trade union issue. At present legal protection, to the point of total immunity, is given to trade unions, even when their actions are preventing managers saving dying industries. Of course unions deserve a fair deal, but the unions who—perhaps with the best intentions—have been destroying British Leyland do not deserve legal immunities denied to the men who are trying to save British Leyland. Nor is it in the interest of their members that they should have these immunities. Unfortunately the Government propose only secondary changes which will not alter the balance of power, weighted as it is against those who try to raise productivity.

We want the Government to plead their case, but we even more want the public, and particularly the broad moderate majority to understand the issue. Low productivity is killing Britain; states more socialist than ours have even lower productivity, there is therefore no safety in socialism; states with free opportunity of employment have far higher productivity, and that is the direction in which to move. It is perhaps easy for a newspaper to write such things, though not all do so; on *The Times* we have at least been willing to live our beliefs, and it is the urgency of the national issue which justifies even that experience. But it has been a sad way to spend our one hundred and ninety fifth year.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Settlement at 'The Times'

From Lord Goodman, CH

Sir, It is most agreeable to have you back. It must also be of considerable comfort that yours is a classic case of absence making the heart grow fonder. I hope it will not induce complacency or vanity to be told—as you will often—that in many respects you are irreplaceable.

There will be many views, approbatory and otherwise, about the conduct of this long siege. And I am already aware that industrious contemporary historians are at work. But it is right and necessary to draw attention to the courage and public spirit of one major aspect of your campaign.

Leaving aside any assessment of its merits in relation to new technology, overmanning and the like, it is undeniable that there existed crucial need to restore industrial discipline and order.

I am perhaps specially qualified to know of the increasing anarchy in the newspaper industry, but night by night, immediate and unheralded demands were followed by immediate and illegal action. I do not think any newspaper escaped such pillage. These methods were deplored by the official unions and their officers who could do no more than wring their hands in vain.

Year after year and week after week and, in recent times, almost day after day some newspaper lost thousands and even hundreds of thousands of copies without any effective means of defence. That you took a stand over this must redound to your permanent credit, and earn the praise and acknowledgment of all your fellow practitioners.

That you will succeed in this stand must be the fervent wish of everyone who regards the preservation of a free press as indispensable for a free society.

Yours affectionately,
GOODMAN,
University College,
Oxford.

Christian names in 1978

From Mrs M. Brown and Mr T. Brown

Sir, We feel that there are many who will still be interested in our research into last year's Christian names. Throughout 1978, and for the third successive year, Elizabeth remained the name most frequently chosen by readers announcing the birth of their daughters in *The Times*. As for the past fifteen years, James has proved the most popular name for boys:

James	213 (1)	Elizabeth	129 (1)
Edward	115 (4)	Louise	90 (2)
Alexander	114 (6)	Jane	82 (4)
William	111 (2)	Mary	79 (3)
Thomas	109 (3)	Victoria	64 (12)
John	100 (5)	Sarah	62 (5)
Charles	92 (7)	Catherine	53 (7)
Richard	78 (10)	Alice	49 (11)
David	72 (8)	Katherine	49 (6)
Nicholas	63 (11)	Emily	46 (18)
		Helen	46 (24)

(The figures in parentheses indicate the position held in 1977.)

The list of boys' names for 1978 shows that Robert has been replaced by Nicholas. There has been considerable change among the girls. Victoria, Alice, Emily and Helen have taken over from Charlotte, Lucy and Emma. Names which showed a substantial increase in popularity in 1978 were Christopher George and Joanna. Three of the more unusual names chosen for girls were Alalia, Carenza and Jurline.

The table for first names shows James still maintaining a lead over the boys, though Thomas was once again a close contender. Victoria won first place among the girls, displacing Sarah:

James	102 (1)	Victoria	50 (15)
Thomas	85 (2)	Sarah	48 (1)
Alexander	60 (4)	Katherine	39 (2)
Edward	57 (5)	Alexandra	36 (15)
William	52 (3)	Emily	36 (11)
Nicholas	49 (6)	Caroline	34 (13)
Charles	47 (7)	Charlotte	32 (3)
Richard	42 (8)	Emma	30 (3)
David	39 (16)	Lucy	28 (7)
Robert	39 (18)	Elizabeth	27 (11)
Andrew	39 (10)	Joanna	27 (18)

After regaining a place in the team in 1977, John fell back in popularity, and was replaced by David and Robert. There was a high turnover among girls' names. Catherine, Alice, Anna and Sophie gave way to Victoria. Alexandra Caroline, Joanna and Elizabeth. Two names to gain in favour as first names during 1978 were Adam and Kate.

An analysis of the figures for 1978 shows that there were 4,029 births announced in *The Times*, of whom 2,090 were boys, 1,937 were girls, and there were two instances where no sex was stated. The overall total was very close to that of 1977, which was 4,098. It seems likely that if *The Times* had been printed throughout December, the 1978 total would have been higher than that of 1977, reversing a ten-year downward trend. The following summary shows the distribution of names in 1978, excluding the two babies for whom no sex was stated:

	One	Two	Three	Four	No Names	Totals
Boys:	330	762	401	7	590	2,090
Girls:	389	833	182	3	530	1,937

The number of twins recorded in 1978 was 44, as against 47 in 1977. Of the 1978 sets, 16 were boys, 20 were girls and eight were mixed.

As in 1977, the adoptions came to 29, among whom were 10 boys, including a set of twins, and 19 girls.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET BROWN,
THOMAS BROWN.
7 Foxthorn Paddock,
Badger Hill,
York.

Heart of oak

From Mr Anthony Given

Sir, *Times* may come and *Times* may go, but the English oak goes on for ever. Or does it?

Bureaucratic indifference appears to be giving oak wilt as good a chance as Dutch elm disease. But surely the oak must triumph—like *The Times*.

Yours truly,
ANTHONY GIVEN,
The Croft,
Walkern,
Near Stevenage,
Hertfordshire.

Giving Britain a fair deal in the EEC

From Mr Peter Lloyd, MP for Fareham (Conservative), and others

Sir, We recently sponsored a motion offering the Prime Minister every encouragement in her determination to secure an early and equitable reduction in the unacceptably high United Kingdom contribution to the EEC budget. It has so far been signed by 162 Conservative MPs—three-quarters of those eligible to do so as members of the Government and their parliamentary private secretaries are by tradition debarred from adding their signatures.

It should leave our EEC partners in absolutely no doubt that Mrs Thatcher's stand is overwhelmingly supported by her parliamentary party, which has been, and still is, the mainstay of the European cause in Great Britain.

Nevertheless we believe that the EEC cannot much longer retain the loyalty of a member country if it continues to demand a membership fee entirely out of line with the resources that country brings to the Community or the benefits it draws from it. The following table illustrates very starkly how heavily the United Kingdom is penalized in this respect.

1980 EEC Budget

	Gross domestic product per head Denmark = 100	Net receipts/ contributions per family of 4
Denmark	100	+£196
Germany	92	− 46
Belgium	87	+ 151
Netherlands	84	+ 82
France	83	− 1
UK	53	− 88
Italy	46	+ 35
Ireland	37	+ 430

Neither the offer of short-term budgetary adjustments, nor the promise of long-term increases in programmes which directly favour the United Kingdom, will provide an acceptable remedy. Only with new and permanent financial arrangements, involving in particular the fundamental reform of the common agriculture policy which will reduce the central budget as well as spread the visible net cost/benefit of membership far more equally than at present, can the EEC remain united and flourish.

We believe our European partners accept the general truth of this proposition. We believe they want Britain to remain part of the Community. We trust they also recognize that, unless we can jointly work out the radical changes needed and put them speedily into effect, the case for Britain staying inside becomes increasingly difficult to sustain.

Yours,
PETER LLOYD,
JOHN WATSON,
TONY MARLOW,
JOHN MAJOR,
House of Commons,
November 7.

Dressed as sheepmeat

From Mr Parker Heskett

Sir, There does not seem to be any limit to the ingenuity of the bureaucratic mind in the concoction of fractured phraseology and inelegant English.

The recent use of the term "sheepmeat" in place of mutton and lamb is depressing in the extreme and will, I should think, put many people off buying what is one of our most important farm products.

The English language is rich in the vocabulary of the table. Barons and rounds and sirloins of beef, venison, gammons, hams and flitches illuminate the mind and all invitations to the feast. Now we are to be deflated and discouraged by nauseating pictures of saddles and crowns of sheepmeat.

What next? Cowmeat?

Yours etc.,
PARKER HESKETT,
Evington,
Hastingleigh,
Kent.
October 30.

Royal Opera House development

From Lord Drogheda and Sir Claus Moser

Sir, We are writing as past and present chairmen of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden and as joint chairmen of the Royal Opera House Development Appeal. We request the courtesy of your most welcomely reopened columns to express our thanks to the Prince of Wales and to Princess Margaret for the great help they have been giving us in connexion with the development project and appeal.

First of all, the background. It is many years since working conditions at Covent Garden were described in the report of a House of Commons select committee presided over by Mrs Renee Short as "appalling". At the time nothing significant could be done because of the presence of the Covent Garden produce markets, but as soon as these were moved away we persuaded the Government of the day that the land adjoining the Royal Opera House must not be allowed to be used for any other purpose than improvement to the facilities of the theatre, which are not only disgraceful but hopelessly inadequate.

The land was acquired in 1973, when a Tory Government was in power, and in 1975 with Labour in power it was transferred via the Arts Council to a specially created trust which exists to ensure that proper development takes place. Consultations were held with the various authorities involved, and detailed plans were drawn up.

The work was planned to be divided into phases. A powerful appeal committee was formed, because it was evident from the start that the Government would not undertake the whole cost of finance. The cost of the most vital phase I was estimated to be some £8m. Towards this total we have raised about £5.5m, including £1m from the GLC and £1m from the last Government.

Fund-raising on such a massive scale for a single project has seldom previously been undertaken. It was therefore with immense pleasure that we learnt that the Prince of Wales, who is the Patron of the Royal Opera, had agreed to play the leading role in a film contrasting the beauties of the auditorium with the deplorable conditions backstage. The film is being widely shown throughout the United Kingdom, as well as overseas, and the Prince has revealed that a second career could be his for the asking.

It has become an accepted practice for large scale appeals to look overseas for support. Covent Garden is one of the tiny handful of opera houses of truly international fame and repute, and few would deny that if it ceased to exist the lyric arts would be seriously impoverished.

Accordingly approaches are being made on a very selective basis in several countries where opera and ballet are loved. Prominent among these is the United States, where for some time there has existed a valuable organization, the American Friends of Covent Garden.

Thus it was particularly gratifying for us that Princess Margaret undertook to visit five leading American cities, in order to introduce the film to United States audiences. She has for many years been President of the Royal Ballet and involves herself closely in the company's work and indeed in the life of the Royal Opera House.

Her visit to the United States last month occupied almost three weeks. For some of the time one or other of us accompanied her, and with first-hand knowledge we can say that her visit was highly successful. Wherever she went she was received with immense warmth and enthusiasm and it was a joy for us to witness the concern for the Royal Opera House which was everywhere in evidence. We are therefore particularly grateful to Princess Margaret for undertaking the tour and for seeing it through to a successful conclusion without any departure from the scheduled plan. In doing so she showed great personal courage, thereby doing a service not only to the Royal Opera House but also to Britain.

We should like to take this opportunity of thanking our friends in America for the enthusiastic help which they gave us during Princess Margaret's visit. There is still far to go and it must be appreciated that to a very large degree the solution to our problem depends upon the continuance of Government support: though we will of course go on seeking help from all quarters, both near and far, to ensure the survival of the Royal Opera House.

Yours, etc,
DROGHEDA.
CLAUS MOSER.
Royal Opera House Development Appeal,
Covent Garden,
London, WC2.
November 10.

Weapons for what?

From Mr Paul de Hevesy

Sir, In many countries the daily press seems to derive a gruesome satisfaction from telling its readers that some new weapon of ingenious design and deadly power has been added to the arsenal of one of the chief adversaries in the cold war.

Especial emphasis is laid on its importance in deterring a potential aggressor: little or nothing is said of its use for purposes of unprovoked attack and aggression, of its formidable offensive power, or of its horrifying capacity for destruction and devastation.

While the ostensible purpose of such a weapon may be to aid in defending civilization, its use must result in the death or mutilation of millions of human beings. Would not it be saner and safer to destroy the weapons in question, and indeed all others like it before the world runs the risk of degrading them to the ignoble function of destroying humanity?

Lord Grey of Fallodon, who, as Sir Edward Grey, had been the British Foreign Secretary at the outbreak of the First World War in 1914, declared, when the war was over and he had retired from an active political career, that the war had been "unavoidable" because of the desperate rivalry that had embittered the relations between the leading European powers.

Since the race in armaments between East and West is today more frantic and potentially more disastrous than that which embroiled and embittered relations between the European powers before 1914, one is forced to conclude, by the logic of Lord Grey's argument, that a third world war also will be "unavoidable".

It therefore behoves statesmen and diplomatists to make strenuous and unremitting efforts to avert such a disaster.

As long as there are arms, there will be wars: if there are no arms, there can be no wars. Hence it follows that, if there is to be lasting peace among the nations, all arms, naval, military and air, must be destroyed. Who is against this policy?

In truth, there is no other policy that would offer the faintest hope of promoting peace likely to be universal and durable. Arguments against the total destruction of arms are in general cunning mixtures of palliating sophisms with sonorous platitudes, which fail to hide the intellectual and imaginative poverty of the politicians who resort to them.

Their chimerical hope of outdoing each other in the massive resources of their arsenals will end by seducing them into a war of senseless ferocity and devastation, from which it is doubtful whether the human race could survive.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
PAUL de HEVESY
Haus Herold,
Kitzbühel, Austria.

Wearing a buttonhole

From H. M. Saiewitz

Sir, I hope it is not too late to remind your readers to celebrate the return of *The Times* by wearing a buttonhole, as I suggested in my letter on November 30.

Your obedient servant,
H. M. SAIEWITZ.
43 Tetherdown, N10.
November 7.

Refitting wards in hospitals

From Lord Hayter, and others

Sir, For King Edward's Hospital Fund for London, which began as a Jubilee Fund in 1897, it seemed particularly appropriate to make a special contribution to London hospitals on the occasion of the Queen's Silver Jubilee.

One million pounds was set aside for refitting wards of some of London's older hospitals, many having been opened in Victorian days. Being solidly built they refit extraordinarily well, as we have seen from some already done. The sanitary inadequacies and poor facilities for nursing staff have greatly added to the difficulties of catering for patients.

However extra bathrooms and lavatories, a day room, a treatment room and a nursing station can be built within the existing framework or with the addition of an external spine. With false ceilings they emerge as modern wards meeting present-day needs and expectations of staff and patients.

Guided by expert nursing and architectural advice we have made grants of about £100,000 each to 10 hospitals. Most of them have been former municipal or voluntary hospitals, now busy NHS district general hospitals providing mainly acute medical and surgical care in different parts of London. We have also given a grant to the Queen Elizabeth Children's Hospital in Hackney.

All these hospitals suffer from "planning blight". Even for those which would have to wait many years for rebuilding any refitting meanwhile has been on a minimal scale. The London reconstruction programme for hospitals has been greatly slowed down. Building costs have risen steeply at a time when less "new money" has come into the NHS, and London has received a smaller proportion than other parts of the country.

A policy of refitting our older hospitals offers a realistic prospect of getting their wards up to a modern standard within 10-15 years and at a far lower cost than building new hospitals. Such refitting would give a much-needed boost to morale among all members of the hospital staff, particularly the nurses. It was indeed the awareness of this need that encouraged the Fund to launch its Jubilee Project.

Yours faithfully,
HAYTER,
AVERY JONES,
ROBIN BROOK,
MARIUS GRAY.
King Edward's Hospital Fund for London,
14 Palace Court, W2.
November 7.

A solution for Cyprus

From Lord Bethell, Member of European Parliament for London North-West (Conservative) and others

Sir, On the island of Cyprus practically nothing has changed since our letter to you of November 30, 1978, pointing out how easy it would be for Turkey and the Turkish-Cypriots to bring about a just solution.

They need make only two concessions—a territorial withdrawal to an area more closely in line with the Turkish-Cypriot proportion of the island's population and the creation of a Cyprus government to be responsible for foreign affairs, national defence, central taxation and customs.

We feel sure that on this basis they would be able to negotiate with the Greek-Cypriots a solution under which they would control their own affairs within a federal unit—schools, health, housing, transport and, above all, security.

The present barrier running across the island would be dismantled and they would take their place internationally as part of the federal state. Recovery aid would become available to both sides.

The Turkish-Cypriots have much to gain from accepting this way out of the impasse, as an alternative to enduring yet another year of semi-isolation.

Yours sincerely,
NICHOLAS BETHELL,
Acting Chairman, Friends of Cyprus,
CHRISTOPHER PRICE,
CYRIL TOWNSEND,
17 Crastock Court,
7 Queen's Gardens, W2.
November 6.

Re cycling

From Mr A. S. Minton

Sir, Motorways are flat, straight and time-saving. They are built for and encourage high-speed travel, but in the interests of fuel economy and wear and tear on vehicles this is no longer desirable. If we are buying too many foreign cars then they must be made to last longer.

Motorists need straight, flat roads mainly for speed, whereas cyclists need such roads to lessen exertion. Cyclists are not allowed on motorways, but must keep to the more dangerously congested highways and by-ways.

The hard shoulders of motorways probably involve about 10 per cent of construction costs, but are no more than emergency havens reserved for the rare event.

Having in mind the ever-increasing costs of fuels and vehicles, it is conceivable that it will become necessary to reconsider the functions of motorways: that they should become "freeways" to all road users and that the "hard shoulders" should be open to scooters, cyclists and even hikers.

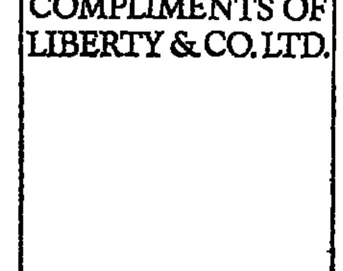
Yours faithfully,
A. S. MINTON,
118 Wenallt Road,
Rhiwbina,
Cardiff.
October 25.

Up and away

From Mr D. J. Connolly

Sir, Last Monday, I believe I heard the sound of the first phoenix of the year. Who said it was extinct? Welcome back.

Yours faithfully,
D. J. CONNOLLY,
67 Gossoms End,
Berkhamsted,
Hertfordshire.
October 28.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 12: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this evening attended a Reception to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of The Prince of Wales's Division (Colonel Commandant, General Sir Anthony Farrar-Hockley) at the Naval and Military Club, Piccadilly, W1, and were received by The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, The 22nd (Cheshire) Regiment and The Royal Regiment of Wales (24/41st Foot).

The Countess of Airlie, Mr Robert Fellowes and Lieutenant-Colonel Blair Stewart-Wilson were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President, attended a dinner of the Board of Management of the Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851 at 170 Queen's Gate, SW7.

Lord Rupert Nevill was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales, Master of the Bench, this evening attended a Moot in the Hall, Gray's Inn, WC1.

The Hon Edward Adeane was in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, attended by Mrs Andrew Feilden, Major Nicholas Lawson and Captain Normand Jodoin, left Gatwick Airport, London, this afternoon to visit Canada.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 12: The Duke of Gloucester attended a reception to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of The Prince of Wales's Division at the Naval and Military Club, Piccadilly, London, this evening.

Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Bland was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
November 12: The Duke of Kent this evening attended a Reception to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of The Prince of Wales's Division at the Naval and Military Club, Piccadilly.

Lieutenant-Commander Richard Buckley, RN, was in attendance.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will visit Australia from May 24 to May 28, 1980, when the Queen will officially open the new High Court building in Canberra.

Forthcoming marriages

The Hon J. R. Hewlett and Miss K. J. de Beaurepaire
The engagement is announced between Richard, younger son of Lady Hewlett and the late Right Hon Lord Hewlett, Kt, CBE, of Dane Edge, Swettenham, Congleton, Cheshire, and Katherine Jane, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Derek Beaurepaire, of 23 Erin Street, Richmond, Victoria 3121, Australia.

Mr J. M. D. Adams and Miss P. Frischer
The engagement is announced between James MacGregor David, younger son of the late R. S. Adams and of Mrs G. H. Carew-Hunt, of Mill House, Abbots Worthy, near Winchester, and Patricia, younger daughter of the late G. K. Frischer and of Mrs Frischer, of Wornall Road, Kansas City, Missouri, United States.

Mr M. E. Colclough and Miss C. V. Dallas
The engagement is announced between Miles Edward, son of Mr and Mrs G. E. Colclough, of Hafod, Manor Park Road, Glossop, Derbyshire, and Clementine Victoria, daughter of Squadron Leader and Mrs W. M. Dallas, of Roselidden House, Wendron, Helston, Cornwall.

Mr T. R. Foster and Miss J. S. P. Bax
The engagement is announced between Timothy, son of Mr and Mrs Hugh Foster, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, and Jennifer, daughter of his Honour Judge Bax, QC, and Mrs Bax, of Richmond, Surrey.

Mr N. McK. Thornton Jackson and Miss N. E. Sullivan
The engagement is announced between Neil Thornton Jackson, of Bath, and Nancy Sullivan, of Atherton, California.

Mr T. C. Meade and Miss A. M. McCormick
The marriage will take place on February 16 in Weybridge between Thomas Christopher, youngest son of Mr and Mrs J. P. Meade, of Hayes, Middlesex and Anne Mary, only daughter of Mr and Mrs H. P. McCormick, of Pyrford, Surrey.

Mr D. H. H. Smith and Miss C. L. Curry
The engagement is announced between David, son of the late Mr H. D. G. Smith and of Mrs G. M. Smith, of Chislehurst, Kent, and Cindy, elder daughter of the late Mr E. R. Curry, and of Mrs R. Dietterich, of Telford, Pennsylvania, United States.

Mr A. D. Thirkettle and Miss J. C. Hill
The engagement is announced between Alistair David, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Malcolm Thirkettle, of Coln St Aldwyns, Gloucestershire, and Janet Clare, only daughter of the late Mr and Mrs Frank Hill, of Poulton, Gloucestershire.

Mr H. C. T. Strutt and Miss A. Maas
The engagement is announced between Henry, elder son of the Hon Peter and Mrs Strutt, of Stutton Hall, Ipswich, Suffolk, and Athena, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Jeremy Maas, of Suffolk House, Montpelier Row, Twickenham.

Major R. M. Arnold and Miss R. P. Farbridge
The engagement is announced between Roderick, son of the late Mr T. B. Arnold and of Mrs C. M. Arnold, of Antibes, and Ruth, daughter of Mr and Mrs T. J. Farbridge, of Quadrille Court, Lymington, Hampshire.

Mr M. J. Cresswell and Miss L. Orchard
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mrs M. M. Cresswell and the late Mr Cresswell, of Southampton, and Lowena, daughter of Mr and Mrs L. C. J. Orchard, of Kew.

Mr G. A. Gerratt and Miss M. A. Wells
The engagement is announced between Graeme Alan, elder son of Mrs R. I. Hingston-Jones and the late Mr W. Gerratt, and stepson of Mr L. Hingston-Jones, of Torquay, Devon, and Mary Alice, eldest daughter of Mrs A. J. Wells and the late Mr Wells, of Westbrook, Margate, Kent.

Mr P. G. Herrmann and Miss C. A. N. Harker
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mrs I. V. Herrmann and the late Mr G. P. Herrmann, of West Norwood, London, SE27, and Chloë, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. G. N. Harker, of Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire.

Mr J. E. Keighley and Mlle B. L. M. de la Vaissière de Lavergne
The engagement is announced between Jonathan Eden, son of the late Mr Geoffrey Keighley, OBE, and of Mrs Brenda Keighley, of Stradishall, Newmarket, and Béatrice Louise Marie Luce, daughter of M Jacques de la Vaissière de Lavergne, Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur, Croix de Guerre, and Madame de la Vaissière de Lavergne, of Paris XVI.

Mr A. P. Merry and Miss L. A. Beck
The engagement is announced between Paul, only son of Mr and Mrs Brian Merry, of Highgate, London, N6, and Laura, younger daughter of the late Mr Douglas Beck and Mrs Beck, of Stradbroke Island, Queensland, Australia.

Mr P. J. Sumner and Miss S. M. Phipps
The engagement is announced between Patrick, younger son of Lieutenant-Commander and Mrs Michael Sumner, of Stanmore, Northam, north Devon, and Susan, younger daughter of Mr John Phipps, of St. Giles, Burwash, east Sussex, and Mrs Sheila Knapp, of The Whim, Furze Hill, Lynton, Devon.

Mr N. M. Hodges and Miss D. J. Palmer
The engagement is announced between Nigel Macdonald, younger son of Air Chief Marshal Sir Lewis and Lady Hodges, of Allens House, Plaxtol, Kent, and Deborah Jane, daughter of Major-General and Mrs Michael Palmer, of Cambrai House, Bovington, Dorset.

Mr I. A. Campbell and Miss R. P. Meek
The engagement is announced between Iain Andrew, son of Mrs E. Campbell, of Oxford, and of the late Dr A. J. Campbell, and Rosalind Patricia, daughter of Professor and Mrs J. M. Meek, of West Kirby, Wirral.

Mr R. D. W. Dennis and Miss A. H. Sykes
The engagement is announced between William, youngest son of Mr and Mrs R. W. Dennis, of Nettlebed, Oxfordshire, and Anne, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs T. H. Sykes, of Hampton, Middlesex.

Dr S. H. Green and Miss M. R. Newman
The engagement is announced between Stuart Green, of Birmingham, son of Mr and Mrs H. Green, of Southport, and Margaret, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Newman, of Bayswater, London.

Mr R. T. Hudson and Miss R. M. Mander
The engagement is announced between Richard Thomas, only son of Mr and Mrs Thomas Alan Hudson, of Rose Cottage, Wood Lane, Mobberley, Cheshire, and Ruth Marven, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Noel Mander, of St Peter's Organ Works, London.

Dipl-Ing U. Marggraf and Miss F. M. Spencer
The engagement is announced between Udo, son of the late Mr A. Marggraf and of Mrs I. Marggraf, of Frankfurt am Main, West Germany, and Mary, daughter of Dr and Mrs S. J. G. Spencer, of 66 Old Road, Headington, Oxford.

Mr D. J. Roelants and Miss A. J. Steven
The engagement is announced between David James, son of Mr and Mrs John Roelants, of Dalton, Huddersfield, and Anita Jane, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Konrad Steven, of Ings Cottage, Outlane, Huddersfield.

Mr J. F. Sunderland and Miss S. J. Heath
The engagement is announced between Jonathan Frazer, only son of Mr and Mrs Peter Sunderland, of Chelsea, London, and Sandra Jane, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Wallis Heath, of St Andrews, Fife.

Dr A. M. Valori and Miss C. M. G. Bramley
The engagement is announced between Alexander, son of Mr and Mrs S. Valori, of Upton Close, Norwich, Norfolk, and Clare, daughter of Mr and Mrs E. Bramley, of Boundary Farm, Gillingham, Norfolk.

Birthdays today

Miss Hermione Baddeley, 71; Air Marshal Sir Gareth Clayton, 65; Sir Arnold Lindley, 77; Major-General J. D. Lunt, 62; Sir Penderel Moon, 74; Admiral Sir William O'Brien, 63; Professor K. Manley Smith, 87; Mr John Sparrow, 73; Sir Graham Vincent, 88.

Christening

The infant daughter of Sir Nicholas and Lady Couper was christened Caroline Doune by the Rev William Baddeley, Rural Dean of Westminster (St Margaret's), in the Guards Chapel on Sunday, September 2, 1979. The godparents are the Hon Christopher Lennox-Boyd, Mr Patrick Brook, Captain John Matthews, Miss Tessa Dahl, Mrs Richard Porter and Mrs Simon Padley (for whom Mrs James Stratton stood proxy).

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Lady Pamela Hartwell to be a trustee of the British Museum.
Mr Derek Westlake, general manager of Sadler's Wells Theatre, to be director of the Finnish National Ballet.

Marriages

Mr J. Hamilton and Miss L. Seaward
The marriage took place quietly on June 18 at Chichester of Mr John Hamilton, youngest son of Sir Denis and Lady Hamilton, of London, to Miss Linda Seaward, daughter of Mr and Mrs Bernard Seaward, of Leigh-on-Sea.

Mr W. J. L. James and Miss S. Harper
The marriage took place quietly on *Saturday, June 2, 1979, at St* Augustine's church, Kilburn, of Mr William Jeremy Layard James, only son of Mr W. P. James and Mrs F. M. W. James, to Miss Sara Harper, elder daughter of Mrs S. E. Harper and the late Mr J. F. Harper. The Rev R. J. Avent officiated.

Mr J. A. Murray and Miss D. M. Deague
The marriage took place in London, on Friday, September 28, 1979, of Mr John Anthony Murray to Miss Diana Marguerite Deague.

Mr C. Kountouris and Miss C. Hastings
The marriage took place on November 1 in the United States of Mr Costi Kountouris, son of Air Vice-Marshal and Mrs G. Kountouris, of Athens, to Miss Clare Hastings, daughter of Mr Macdonald Hastings, of Brown's Farm, Old Basing, Hampshire, and Lady Lancaster, of 78 Cheyne Court, London, SW3.

Mr J. P. Mason and Miss B. J. Egerton
The marriage took place quietly in London on November 10 between Mr Jonathan Patrick Mason, only son of Mr and Mrs Patrick Mason, of Amersham, Buckinghamshire, and Miss Bridget Jane Egerton, elder daughter of Mr Ansell Egerton, of Trotton, Hampshire, and of Mrs Judy Egerton, of London, SW10.

Mr W. Yates and Mrs E. Mansel-Pleydell
The marriage took place quietly in London on Thursday, November 8, of Mr William Yates to Mrs Elisabeth Mansel-Pleydell.

Mr J. Glover Wyllie and Mrs R. Harvey
The marriage of Mr John Glover Wyllie and Mrs Rosamund Harvey was blessed at a service in Bosham Church, West Sussex, on July 2, 1979.

Mr I. A. Matheson and Miss C. S. Mason
The marriage took place on April 7, at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, between Mr Ian Matheson, of Holtby, York, and Miss Carolyn Mason, of Roedean, Brighton.

Dr E. A. Willis and Miss B. M. Iuel
The marriage took place at Meilgaard Slot, Denmark, on October 27, of Dr Edmund Andrew Willis, son of Dr John Willis and Dr Catherine Willis, of Wressle House, Wressle, Brigg, south Humberside, to Miss Benedicte Marie Iuel, eldest daughter of Hofjagermeister Niels Iuel and Frue Sylvia Iuel. The bride was given in marriage by her father and Mr Christopher Simpson was best man.

OBITUARY

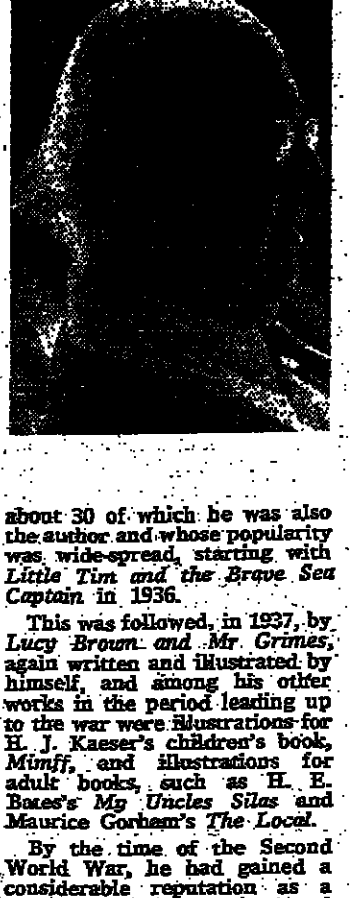
MR EDWARD ARDIZZONE

Prolific illustrator, author and painter

Mr Edward Ardizzone, CBE, RA, RDI, painter, illustrator and author, died on November 8 at the age of 79. No man can have been more kindly, perceptive and dedicated to his craft, nor anyone more English, although, in fact, he was born in Haiphong (then part of French Indo-China) on October 16, 1900, the eldest child of a French-Italian father and a Scottish-English mother. This, however, may be considered but incidental when compared with his long life in England from the age of five—his schooling in East Anglia and the Thames Valley and his working career in London and Kent.

Edward Ardizzone made no claims to be the greatest of artists yet his skill became known in many countries during his life-time and is likely to be remembered in a hundred years' time when the glitter of more brilliant stars may have faded.

Ardizzone concentrated his work within an understandable orbit and its sensitivity could be appreciated by the majority of people, not just by the more discerning. He began his working life as a clerk, and after a number of jobs settled down in the statistical department of the Eastern Telegraph Company. But, no doubt due to artistic leanings culled from his mother's side of the family, he took evening lessons under Bernard Meninsky at Westminster School of Art and subsequently at the Central School of Arts and Crafts; in addition he was self-taught by studying and copying works by Cézanne, Daumier and Signorelli among others. He gave up his clerical job in 1926 and, thereafter, set out to make his living as a professional artist, having his first exhibition of small watercolours in 1928 and providing the illustrations for *In a Glass Darkly*, by J. Sheridan Le Fanu, which was published in 1929. He married that year Catherine Berkeley Anderson. In all he produced delightful drawings for almost 200 books, including of course



about 30 of which he was also the author and whose popularity was wide-spread, starting with *Little Tim and the Brave Sea Captain* in 1936.

This was followed, in 1937, by *Lucy Brown and Mr Grimes*, again written and illustrated by himself, and among his other works in the period leading up to the war were illustrations for H. J. Kaeser's children's book, *Mimff*, and illustrations for adult books, such as H. E. Bates's *My Uncles Silas* and Maurice Gorham's *The Local*.

By the time of the Second World War, he had gained a considerable reputation as a watercolour painter and draughtsman and, after a few months' service in the Royal Artillery, he became an Official War Artist, working with the armies during the withdrawal from France in 1940, then back in London during the first big air raids, and thereafter in the midst of the major events in North Africa, Sicily, Italy, Normandy and finally Germany. Some 300 of these paintings are in the Imperial War Museum and they provide a graphic insight into the fierce actions and the inevitable boredoms which had to be endured, as well as the occasional pleasant moments.

Ardizzone was a great reader and a lover of the less spectacular delights of life—playing on the beaches and relaxing around the home, enjoying red wine, taking snuff, visiting pubs, and above all, studying human behaviour the whole time. He recorded all this in his designs truthfully but in a poetic vein. To quote the late Sir Thomas Monnington "Ardizzone is an artist who has created for himself a language which is perfectly suited to his purpose and inseparable from what he has to say . . . it is so natural and complete that it is beyond criticism". His drawings are kinder than Rowlandson's and more homely; they appeal to the heart as well as to the mind, and, to children as well as adults.

He taught for some years after the last war as a part-time tutor in the School of Engraving at the Royal College of Art but the rest of his life was completely occupied by his own work. He continued producing his own illustrated stories, among them, *Paul, the Hero of the Fire* (1948), *Tim to the Rescue* (1949) *Tim in Danger* (1953) *Peter the Wanderer* (1963) and, in 1965, *Tim and Ginger*. Among the many books he illustrated were, notably, *The Pilgrim's Progess; Barchester Towers, Hunting with Mr Jorrocks, Don Quixote* and *Peter Pan*.

Although never one to seek honours, he was elected an Associate of the Royal Academy in 1962, a Royal Academician in 1970 and a Royal Designer in Industry in 1974, having been made a CBE in 1971. His first retrospective exhibition was held at the Victoria and Albert Museum in 1973 and there are examples of his work at the Tate Gallery and in a number of provincial galleries, Sheffield, Leeds and Liverpool, as well as the large collection at the Imperial War Museum. He was awarded the first Kate Greenaway medal for his publication *Tim All Alone* in 1956 and he was an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Art.

MLLE NADIA BOULANGER

Mademoiselle Nadia Boulanger, the remarkable all-round French musician died on October 22 at the age of 92 after a long life of intense activity in more than one branch of music. Famed chiefly as a teacher, who attracted to Paris students from all over the world, she was also a conductor specialising in vocal music of all periods and in her time had been assistant to her former teacher, Alexander Guilmant, at the organ of the Madeleine in Paris. As a composer she won the second *prix de Rome* in 1908 with a cantata, *La Sirène*, and had songs, orchestral pieces and incidental music (to d'Annunzio's *Città morte*) to her credit, but it is chiefly through others that her great influence was exercised, either through her interpretations of other composers or through her pupils.

Her family had a tradition of music going back to her grandfather, who had won a prize for cello playing in 1797. His son, her father, taught singing at the Paris Conservatoire for 27 years. Her mother was a Russian, née Princess Mychetsky, who was an accomplished singer. Her younger sister Lili, who died in 1918, made a mark as a composer.

Nadia Boulanger was born in Paris on September 16, 1887. She was trained at the Paris Conservatoire under Fauré for composition and obtained first prizes in harmony, counterpoint, fugue, organ and accompaniment, so that whatever her imaginative endowment as a composer she could not be other than a first-class musician, as the rest of her career showed. On her first visit to England in 1936 she introduced *Fauré's Requiem* and in the following year she conducted a whole programme for the Royal Philharmonic Society, which included works by Monteverdi, of whom she became (and remained) an expert interpreter. Years later she came to England to take part in Bath Festivals, when she directed programmes that exactly represented her taste, consisting of Monteverdi, Stravinsky and Fauré. It was observed on one of these occasions that this unlikely conjunction of styles indicated that Mlle Boulanger's musical personality favoured clarity, objectivity and serious devotion, which are the qualities that her pupils find most strongly marked in her.

There is no doubt that she was a great teacher—and teachers of composition are rare, since if they are too strong minded they will suffocate their pupils' individualities. Mlle Boulanger did not altogether escape this danger and was sometimes charged with teaching an arid form of pseudo-Stravinsky to all comers. Indeed her disciples were sometimes jocularly called products of *la Boulangerie*. But there is other testimony to her ability to preserve and stimulate the individual personality. Among her American pupils were Copland, Harris, Bernstein and Piston; among her English ones, Lennox Berkeley and Professor Lewis. She taught at three institutions, the Paris Conservatoire, the *Ecole normale de musique* and the American Conservatory at Fontainebleau, and was indefatigable into her seventies in exerting her magnetic personality upon her pupils and upon the groups of singers and players she gathered round her for carrying her ideas of interpretation into effect. As far back as 1925 she first made a lecture-tour of the United States; she came to Britain pretty frequently during the past 30 years usually to broadcast for the BBC, sometimes to take master-classes at the Royal College of Music; she made records of Monteverdi; indeed she impressed herself upon the musical life of the twentieth century as few but great composers and international virtuosi have done, and certainly as no other woman did. As long ago as 1937 she conducted a concert given by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, the first woman to conduct a whole programme for that society.

In the 1960s she conducted both the New York Philharmonic and the Hallé orchestras. She was a Grand Officier of the Legion of Honour and an honorary CBE and was the recipient of several honorary doctorates.

Professor Ben Zion Beinart, Barber Professor of Jurisprudence in the University of Birmingham since 1976, has died at the age of 65. He was a leading scholar of Roman Law.

Today's engagements

The President of Indonesia and Mme Suharto arrive for state visit, Buckingham Palace, 1; attend state banquet, 8.

Princess Margaret, Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester, The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester attend state banquet for the President of Indonesia, Buckingham Palace, 8.

Exhibitions: Buttons and Bows, English costume, 1066-1939, Livesey Museum, 628 Old Kent Road, Lewisham, 10-5; the Century of Rubens and Rembrandt. Seventeenth-century Dutch and Flemish drawings, British Museum, 10-5; The Colman collection of silver mustard pots, Victoria and Albert Museum, 10-5.50

Lecture: The making of an international encyclopaedia, John Clark and Tony Cobb, Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, 6.

Christmas lights turned on, Oxford Street, 5.

Latest wills

Intestate estate of £250,849

Mr Leslie Walter Hutt, of Lutterworth, a company proprietor, left £250,849 net. He died intestate.

Mrs Violet Owen Kingscote, of Malmesbury, left £235,163 net.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid; tax not disclosed):

Bailey, Mr Sydney Arthur, of Horsell, Surrey £152,003
Carpenter, Mr Rupert Evan Howard, of South Croydon, Surrey £225,545
Chambers, Mr Norman, of Kimberley £165,729
Dupont, Mr Jack Norman, of Friston, East Sussex .. £147,224
Grant, Mr Leslie Ronald, of Warlingham, Surrey £216,456
Haley, Mr Thomas Crawshaw, of Morecambe and Heysham, company director £162,855

Memorial service

Sir Arthian Davies
A memorial service for Sir Arthian Davies was held yesterday at the Temple Church. The Master of the Temple officiated, assisted by the Rev James Owen. Sir Gerald Thesiger, QC, treasurer of the Inner Temple, read the lesson and Lord Salmon gave an address.

Lincoln's Inn officers

The following have been elected as officers for Lincoln's Inn: Mr G. H. Newsom, QC, treasurer; Sir Robert Megarry, master of the library; Mr H. B. Magnus, QC, dean of the chapel; Mr Justice Foster, keeper of the black book; Lord Justice Brightman, master of the walks.

Dinners

Lord Mayor's Banquet
The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor and the Prime Minister were among the speakers at a banquet in Guildhall yesterday evening given by the Lord Mayor, Alderman Sir Peter Gadsden, accompanied by the Lady Mayoress and the Sheriffs and their ladies, for the outgoing Lord Mayor, Alderman Sir Kenneth Cork, and Lady Cork. Among others present were:

The High Commissioner for Mauritius and Lady Teelock, the Soviet Ambassador and Mme Lunkova, the Brazilian Ambassador and Senhora Campos, the Egyptian Ambassador and Mrs Anwar, the Moroccan Ambassador and Mrs Senoussi, the Australian High Commissioner and Lady Freeth, the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany and Frau Ruete, the American Ambassador and Mrs Brewster, the Czechoslovak Ambassador and Mme Cernikova, the Ambassador of Luxembourg, the High Commissioner for Sierra Leone and Mrs Malluri, the Chinese Ambassador and Mme Ke Hua, the South African Ambassador and Mrs de Villiers, the High Commissioner for Malaysia and Tengku Puan Sri Zailan, the High Commissioner for New Zealand and Mrs Gandar.

The Apostolic Delegate, the Acting High Commissioner for Canada and Mrs Hardy, the Secretary of State for the Home Department and Mrs Whitelaw, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and Lady Carrington, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Lady Howe, the Secretary of State for Scotland and the Hon Mrs Younger, the Secretary of State for Social Services and Mrs Jenkin, the Secretary of State for Education and Science and Mrs Carlisle, the Paymaster General and Mrs Maude, the Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps and Lady Michael Fitzalan Howard, the Bishop of London and Mrs Ellison, the Lord Chamberlain and Lady Maclean, the Lord Chief Justice and Lady Widgery, the Master of the Rolls and Lady Denning, the President of the Family Division, Mrs Arnold, representatives of Parliament, the civil service, the Armed Forces, banking, commercial and professional institutions, judges, Masters of livery companies, personal guests of the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, aldermen, common councilmen and officers of the Corporation of London and their ladies.

Wolfe Society
The annual dinner of the Wolfe Society, held to mark the 252nd anniversary of the birth of Major-General James Wolfe, took place at Westerham last night. Mr J. St A. Warde presided and Field Marshal Sir Geoffrey Baker was the guest of honour.

Reception

Speaker
The Speaker gave a reception in Speaker's House yesterday after the unveiling of a memorial to the late Earl Attlee. Members of the family and members of both Houses of Parliament associated with Lord Attlee's administration were among those present.

Service reception

100 (Yeomanry) Field Regiment RA
King Olav of Norway, as Royal Honorary Colonel, 100 (Yeomanry) Field Regiment RA, attended a reception at Coutts and Co, 440 Strand, Friday November 9. He was received by Brigadier A. J. Woolford, Honorary Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel D. N. Shields, Commanding Officer, and Major D. E. Stevens, PMC. Among others present were:

The Norwegian Ambassador, the Lords Lieutenant of Suffolk and Bedfordshire, General Sir Harry Tuzo, the Master Gunner and Mr D. Money-Coutts, and their ladies, and other military and civic dignitaries.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy
CAPTAINS: A. R. Barnden, MOD with DGNPS as director, Naval Serv conditions, Feb 8; R. G. Heaslip, staff of SACLANT as ACOS (policy), April 27.
COMMANDERS: C. W. Crichton, MOD with DNOR, Feb 15; T. R. Shaw, MOD with DG Ships, March 7; B. P. Toft, MOD with DG Ships, June 6; R. B. Wrenn, Bulwark as MEO, June 6; N. I. C. Manger, MOD with DNOR, May 9; F. E. Maclachlan, GM HQ Distd Chatham as PM (Nuclear), P. May 16; P. T. Mayfield, MOD (PE) with DGW(N), DSW Portsdown, May 23; M. H. J. Peters, Osprey as sy offr and base sy offr and staff sy offr to FOST, March 25; T. J. Honnor, MOD with CNSA, March 10; F. J. Lowe, MOD with DNW as AD (ey) (Polaris), April 11; A. E. Wilkins, MOD with DNOT, June 20.
SURGEON COMMANDER: J. M. Young, INM as HNER(N), Jan 3.
CHAPLAINS: Rev C. J. Poster, Cambridge and non port duties, Jan 22; Rev P. C. Rowland, FONAC for duty in Collingwood, Sultan and Centurion, Jan 15.

ROYAL MARINES
MAJORS: C. S. Knight, NDC Latimer as GSO1 (RM), June 14; S. E. Southby-Tailyour, RM Poole a. OC LC Coy, Feb 22; R. I. S. Hawkins, dent of CGRM (Ph) as GSO2 (plans air), March 31.
RETIREMENTS: Surgn Capt A. McEwan, Dec 31; Cdr D. Grender-Jones, Dec 31; Major C. P. Walker, May 17; Major T. M. Taylor, Aug 9.

Army
BRIGADIER: Col J. D. G. Pank, HQ 5 Armd Div as D Comd 5 Armd Div/Comd Paderborn Garrison, Nov 13.
COLONELS: Lt-Col L. F. H. Busk, HQ Armd Div as Col GS, Nov 13; Lt-Col M. A. Gardner, REME, MOD as Col Q Ops, Nov 16; Lt-Col P. C. Harvey, RE, HQ BAOR as Col GS Engr Ops, Nov 26; S. Love, RA, Buenos Aires as DA, Nov 16; Lt-Col R. D. Richardson, RAOC, LE(A) as Col Ord, Ord 3, Nov 16.
LIEUTENANT-COLONELS: C. G. Callow, RAMC, 4 Armd Div Fd Amb as CO, Nov 12; G. E. Gaechl, RAMC, HQ NE District as district PMR, Nov 16; Maj G. W. D. Glover, RAEC, Army Apprentices College, Chepstow, as dir of studies, Nov 16; F. L. Richards, RADC, HQ and Training Centre, RADC, as OIC clinical wing, Nov 16; M. P. Ford, Int Corps, Hong Kong as GSO1, Nov 26; R. P. Taylor, RADC, No 7 Dental Group RADC as CO, Nov 16; M. J. Wellman, RCT, HQ British Forces Belize as GSO1, Nov 20.
RETIREMENT: Maj-Gen Sir John Swinton, Nov 17.

Royal Air Force
GROUP CAPTAIN: E. G. Farrer, RAF Buchan as stn cdr, Nov 16.
WING COMMANDERS (with acting rank of group captain): M. G. Darby, MOD as DD wpn eng (RAF), Nov 12; J. B. Mitchell, SCC Hendon as GC sup cont, Nov 12; D. B. Robinson, HQ Air south as Cht. (P & D), Nov 10.
WING COMMANDERS: K. G. Bennett, HOSTO as OC1S 1, Nov 5; D. J. Saunders, MOD as TES 1, Nov 5.
SQUADRON LEADERS (with acting rank of wing commander): J. M. Rass-Smith, MOD as Air Eng 2b (RAF), Nov 1; D. A. F. Bailey, MOD as P4 (RAF), Nov 12.

25 years ago

From The Times of Saturday, November 13, 1954

Flying over the Pole

A new chapter in air transport history will begin on November 15 when the Scandinavian Airlines system inaugurate the first commercial service across the north polar regions between Europe and the west coast of North America. A Douglas DC 6B airliner will take off from Kastrup Airport, Copenhagen, to fly to Los Angeles by way of Söndre Strömfjord, in south-western Greenland, and Winnipeg, completing the 5,160-mile journey in 27 hours 10 minutes . . . On the same day a similar aircraft will leave Los Angeles to open the eastbound service, which is scheduled to take 24 hours 20 minutes. Thereafter there will be two flights a week in each direction. Instead of subsisting precariously on pemmican and braving the rigours of the Arctic, the passengers will be in a warm pressurized cabin and will be served with meals cooked in the airliner's ovens. Travellers from Copenhagen will have a late dinner when the aircraft is leaving behind the Scandinavian coastline, refreshments during the Greenland stop, breakfast over Baffin Land, luncheon high over Hudson Bay, tea at Winnipeg, and dinner during the final stage to Los Angeles while the airliner is crossing the state of Utah. The trans-polar route has obvious strategic significance. It offers a "short cut" from Europe to the Pacific and the Far East, and has been compared in importance to the Suez Canal and the Panama Canal.

Applications for silk

Applicants for silk who wish their names to be considered for the next list of recommendations, and those who wish to renew their applications, should apply to the Permanent Secretary, Lord Chancellor's Office, House of Lords, London, SW1A 0PW, for an application form and should enclose a self-addressed envelope. The form should be returned to the Lord Chancellor's Office, by December 31.

Archaeology report

Raunds: Saxon churches found

Two Late Saxon churches, dating from the century before the Conquest, have been found in rescue excavations at Raunds, Northamptonshire. The later church had been converted into part of a medieval manor house, and was eventually demolished when the manor became unoccupied about AD 1400. A cemetery with more than 300 burials was associated with the churches.

The site, in the north-west corner of the town, was noted ten years ago as a complex of medieval earthworks, and when planning permission for housing was given a test excavation was carried out, in 1976. One of the trenches struck two decorated grave slabs of Late Saxon date, and the presence of a pre-Conquest church was suspected.

As a result, large-scale excavation has been in progress since 1977, carried out by the Northamptonshire County Council Archaeology Unit under the direction of Mr Andrew Boddington, with funds provided by the Department of the Environment and assistance from the developers, Comben Homes, and other firms. The excavation is expected to end this winter.

The earliest structure so far encountered is a small stone church of nave and chancel, 6.5 metres (20ft) long and 3.25m (11ft) wide, of oolitic limestone and with a paved floor and plastered walls. An altar base was found at the east end, and a small pit in the centre of the nave floor yielded a broken pottery vessel of tenth century date, covered with a slab. Two bronze age arrowheads and a Roman coin found on the chancel floor are thought to have been relics kept in the church.

In the eleventh century the church was demolished and replaced by a larger but similar structure, with wider walls and 15.2m (50ft) long by 4.5m (15ft) wide. The walls of this building survived to a height of three courses over the foundations. To the south and east of the building part of the cemetery has been excavated and more than 150 graves have been excavated from an estimated total of twice that number.

Most of the corpses were buried in shrouds, without coffins, but many graves have rough limestone slabs as pillowstones, as covers, or more rarely as complete linings. One person of consequence had a monolithic coffin, and two other graves had decorated slabs, one with a plain diagonal cross in a circle and the other with a complex, deeply-cut design including panels of cable-work and a long cross with a cross-circle on the shaft.

About AD 1100 the chancel and part of the nave were demolished, and the remaining walls incorporated into the secular manor; the hall was built to the east, and the Saxon walls eventually demolished as the manor expanded westwards.

Between the twelfth and the early fourteenth centuries the manor house comprised a living area, with a hall and parlour, and a service wing of kitchen and stores. One of the best-preserved parts of the manor was the circular dovecote, 9m (29ft) in diameter, with nesting boxes set all round the walls from the floor upwards; the manor would have had a constant supply of fresh meat even in winter.

By about AD 1400 the manor house had been converted to a barn and smithy, and gradually became derelict and was robbed of its stone. The boundary of the manorial complex survives to the present day in the property lines along Rotton Row, and there is some evidence that this whole area of Raunds may have been laid out as a planned unit.

By Norman Hammond
Archaeological Correspondent

Law Report November 12 1979

House of Lords

When judges should refuse interim injunctions in industrial action cases

N W L Ltd v Nelson and Another
Same v Woods

Before Lord Diplock, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton and Lord Scarman
[Speeches delivered October 25]

In cases of industrial conflict, where an employer seeks immediate relief from the court by way of an interlocutory injunction "pending trial" to stop acts or threats of action which he claims will cause him irrecoverable loss if not restrained without delay, and the party against whom the injunction is sought claims that what was done was "in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute", the judge should in the normal way refuse the injunction if it is shown that there is a likelihood that the defence of "trade dispute" will succeed at the trial. That is the approach based on the realities of industrial conflicts in cases which seldom if ever come to actual trial, so that the grant or refusal of an interlocutory injunction generally disposes finally of the matter. It also pays due respect to the policy enacted in the industrial legislation that what is done in furtherance of a trade dispute shall be immune from civil actions in court.

The House of Lords so advised in giving their reasons for dismissing two consolidated appeals by plaintiffs, NWL Ltd, a Hongkong company, from the refusal of two Courts of Appeal (Lord Salmon and Lord Justice Stephenson on June 21 and the Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Waller and Lord Justice Eveleigh on July 3) to grant them interlocutory injunctions to restrain officers of the International Transport Workers Federation (ITF) (Mr James Woods in the first appeal and Mr John Nelson and Mr Brian Laughton in the second) from inducing or encouraging port workers in England and elsewhere to black their vessel, the Nawala.

The vessel, which had flown the Norwegian flag and was manned by a Norwegian crew paid at union-negotiated rates among the highest in Europe, passed in 1978 into the nominal ownership of a Hongkong company, the beneficial owner of whose shares was a Swedish company. The vessel's port of registry was changed to Hongkong, her flag to British, and a new crew was recruited in Hongkong at wages which were very low by European standards and flown to Europe to man the vessel.

The ITF, a federation of trade unions in 85 countries representing, inter alia, seamen, had a policy in respect of vessels which sailed under "flags of convenience"—described by the ITF as all vessels registered in a country which was not the domicile of their beneficial owners. It sought to compel owners of such vessels to employ officers and seamen on its standard articles, providing, among other things, for wages at the middle rates paid to crews under collective agreements in West European countries. That policy was not wholly approved of by seamen in Asian countries, the traditional recruiting grounds for cheap labour; they feared that it might reduce their chances of employment.

On June 18, 1979, when the Nawala was off Redcar with a cargo of iron ore, Mr Woods told her agent that she would be blacked on entering the port unless ITF terms were complied with. Next day Mr Justice Donaldson, following the Court of Appeal decision in *The Camilla M* ([1979] 1 Lloyd's Rep 26) granted the shipowners an interlocutory injunction. On June 21 the first Court of Appeal discharged it, despite evidence that the Hongkong crew were content with their wages and would not sign the ITF agreement because it might mean the loss of their livelihoods.

The Nawala was not blacked at Redcar, but the owners, fearing that she might be blacked at other ports, issued a writ against Mr Nelson and Mr Laughton claiming an injunction, and moved the Commercial Court for an interlocutory injunction restraining any interference with the free passage of the vessel. Mr Justice Donaldson following the latest Court of Appeal decision refused the injunction, and the second Court of Appeal dismissed the shipowners' appeal.

The House overruled the Court of Appeal decision in *The Camilla M*.

Section 17(2), added to the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act, 1974, by the Employment Protection Act, 1975, after the House of Lords decision on interlocutory injunctions in *American Cyanamid Co v Ethicon Ltd* ([1975] AC 396) provides: "It is hereby declared for the avoidance of doubt that where an application is made to a court, pending the trial of an action, for an interlocutory injunction and the party against whom the injunction is sought claims that he acted in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute, the court shall, in exercising its discretion whether or not to grant the injunction, have regard to the likelihood of that party's succeeding at the trial of the action in establishing the matter or matters which would, under any provision of section 13, 14(2) or 15 above, afford a defence to the action."

Mr Roger Buckley, QC, Mr Christopher Clarke and Mr Timothy Charlton for the shipowners; Mr Cyril Newman and Mr Murdoch Gair for the ITF representatives, the defendants.

LORD DIPLOCK said that their Lordships were of opinion that even if the defendants had succeeded in inducing port workers at Redcar to break their contracts of employment and black the Nawala, they would not have committed any tort in English law, because their conduct was excused by section 13.

The crucial question in the appeal, which related to an interlocutory and not a final injunction, was: Had the defendants shown on the evidence such a likelihood of establishing that what they did or threatened to do at Redcar was done or threatened in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute as would justify the court in exercising its discretion in favour of refusing the injunction sought?

The relevant sections of the Act were section 13 conferring the immunity; section 29 which said what was meant by a trade dispute; section 17 which imposed restrictions on the grant of interlocutory injunctions; and section 28 which made it clear that a federation of trade unions such as ITF was itself a trade union within the meaning of the Act.

On the definition of "trade dispute" in section 29(1) it was too plain for argument that there was a dispute between ITF and the shipowners "between workers and employers", at the time the blacking threats at Redcar were made. What ITF was demanding and the shipowners were resisting was that the Nawala crew should be employed under ITF standard terms. It was unarguable that that was not a dispute in connexion with terms and conditions of employment. The fact that the Hongkong crew were, as stated in evidence, content with their existing articles and were not in dispute with the shipowners was not material. To the extent that they supported the shipowners in their resistance to ITF's demand the dispute might also have qualified as one "between workers and workers" within subsection (1).

On the question whether the defendants' threats of blacking and attempts to induce port workers to adopt that course were "acts done in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute" within section 13(1), his Lordship would have thought the contrary to be unarguable but for the judgments in *The Camilla M*—an embarrassment not affecting their Lordships.

It was submitted for the shipowners, as it had been in *The Camilla M*, that ITF's real object was to drive flags of convenience off the seas and that that was a political and not what the Master of the Rolls had described as "a legitimate trade object". If that was the ultimate object of ITF's campaign it would not prevent the immediate dispute between ITF and the shipowners, in which the interlocutory injunctions were sought, from being a dispute connected with the terms and conditions of employment of those workers who were or might become members of the Nawala's crew.

Furthermore, in a case originating in the Commercial Court it would be carrying judicial anchoritism too far if the House were to feign ignorance of the fact that, apart from fiscal advantages, one of the main commercial attractions of registering vessels under flags of convenience was that it facilitated the use of cheap labour to man them. So even the ultimate object of ITF's campaign was connected with the terms and conditions of employment of seamen.

In *The Camilla M* the Master of the Rolls had based his decision on his interpretation of "in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute". His view was that having regard to the attitudes [to ITF policy and demands] of the crews, Indian and later Greek, what the ITF demanded was virtually impossible of performance by the owners and that it could be inferred from that that the ITF was acting "for some extraneous motive and not for any legitimate trade object", which prevented what they were doing from being acts done in furtherance of a trade dispute.

Reliance had been placed on *Conway v Wade* ([1909] AC 506), a case decided shortly after the passing of the Trade Disputes Act, 1906, where the definition of a trade dispute was much less extensive than in the 1974 Act. It would be unwise to treat what had been said 70 years ago by the House as still authoritative. The modern legislation reflected the change of parliamentary attitude towards trade unions whether one liked the change or not; in interpreting the legislation the judges must take account of it.

His Lordship would accept that there might be cases where strikes were called or refusals to perform contracts of employment in some particular respect were ordered by unions for political reasons unconnected with any of the subject-matters described in section 13(1), as in *BBC v Hearn* ([1977] 1 WLR 1004).

If, however, a union demand on an employer was about terms and conditions of employment, the fact that it appeared to the court to be unreasonable because compliance with it was so difficult as to be commercially impracticable or would bankrupt the employer or drive him out of business, did not prevent it being a dispute connected with terms and conditions of employment. Immunity under section 13 was not forfeited by being stubborn or pigheaded, nor did it matter that the demand was made and the dispute pursued with more than one object in mind, and that of those objects the predominant one was not the improvement of the terms and conditions of employment of those workers to whom the demand related. Even if the predominant object were to bring down the fabric of the present economic system by raising wages to unrealistic levels, or to drive Asian seamen from the seas except when they served in ships beneficially owned by nationals of their own countries, that would not make it any less a dispute connected with terms and conditions of employment and thus a trade dispute, if the actual demand resisted by the employer was as to the terms and conditions on which his workers were to be employed. The threat of industrial action if the demand was not met was nonetheless an act done in furtherance of that trade dispute. His Lordship did not regard *The Camilla M* as distinguishable from the instant case. It should be treated as overruled.

His Lordship turned to the effect of section 17(2) on applications for interlocutory injunctions. The nature and goals of industrial action, the virtual immunity from liability for tort conferred on trade unions by section 14, and the immunity from liability for the tort of wrongfully inducing breaches of contract conferred on all persons by section 13 where that was done in connexion with a trade dispute, were three factors which, in combination, would make the balance of convenience come down heavily in favour of granting an interlocutory injunction if the usual criteria were alone applied.

In the normal case of threatened industrial action against an employer, the damage he would sustain was likely to be large, difficult to assess in money, and might well be irreparable. Further, damage was likely to be caused to the employer's customers who were not parties to the action, and to the public. On the other hand, the defendant was an individual union officer who, though acting on behalf of the union, could be sued in his personal capacity only. He would suffer virtually no damage if the injunction was granted, whereas if it was not, and the action against him ultimately succeeded, it was most improbable that damages on the scale likely to be awarded against him would prove to be recoverable from him.

Again, to grant the injunction would maintain the status quo until the trial—a factor which in evenly balanced cases generally operated in favour of granting an interlocutory injunction. So the balance of convenience would appear to be heavily weighted in favour of the employer.

To take that view, however, would be to blind oneself to the practical realities. (1) The real dispute was not between the employer and the nominal defendant but between the employer and the trade union threatening industrial action. (2) The threat of blacking or other industrial action was being used as a bargaining counter in negotiations either existing or anticipated to obtain agreement by the employer to do whatever it was the union required of him. (3) It was the nature of industrial action that it could be promoted effectively only so long as it was possible to strike while the iron was still hot; once postponed it was unlikely that it could be revived. (4) In consequence the grant or refusal of an interlocutory injunction generally disposed finally of the action; in practice actions of the present type seldom if ever came to actual trial.

Section 17(2), which did not apply to Scotland, appeared to be a reminder addressed by Parliament to English judges, that, where industrial action was threatened which was prima facie tortious because it induced a breach of contract, they should, in exercising their discretion whether or not to grant an interlocutory injunction, put into the balance of convenience in favour of the defendant those countervailing practical realities and, in particular, that the grant of an injunction was tantamount to giving final judgment against the defendant.

The subsection did not expressly enjoin the judge to have regard to the likelihood of success in establishing any defence other than a statutory immunity created by the Act; so it applied only to those actions which since they were connected with trade disputes, involved the practical realities his Lordship had mentioned.

When properly understood, there was nothing in the *Cyanamid* decision to suggest that in considering whether to grant an interlocutory injunction the judge ought not to give full weight to all the practical realities in the situation to which the injunction would apply. That decision, which enjoined the judge on an application for an interlocutory injunction to direct his attention to the balance of convenience as soon as he had satisfied himself that there was a serious question to be tried, was not dealing with an industrial dispute case in which the grant or refusal of an injunction at that stage would, in effect, dispose of the action finally in favour of whichever party was successful in the application.

That factor—that the grant or refusal of the interlocutory injunction would have the practical effect of putting an end to the action—brought into the balance of convenience considered in *Cyanamid* an important additional element which the judge should bring in in weighing the risks that injustice might result from his deciding the application one way rather than the other.

His Lordship did not think the House should accept the invitation to treat the likelihood of the defendant's establishing the defence of statutory immunity as an "overriding" or "paramount" factor against granting the injunction. The degree of likelihood of success of the special section 13 defence was clearly relevant; so was the degree of irrecoverable damage likely to be sustained by the employer, his customers, and the general public if the injunction was refused and the defence ultimately failed. Judges would be respecting the intention of Parliament in making the change in the law in 1975 if in the normal way the injunction were refused in cases where the defendant had shown that it was more likely than not that he would succeed in his defence of statutory immunity; but that did not mean that there might not be cases where the consequences to the employer or third parties or the public, and perhaps the nation itself, might be so disastrous that the injunction ought to be granted, unless there was a high degree of probability that the defence would succeed.

The instant case presented no problem. On the evidence at each stage of the proceedings, the defendants had a virtual certainty of establishing their defence of statutory immunity. His Lordship would dismiss the appeals.

LORD FRASER, concurring, said that it was probably significant that section 17(2) was inserted by the 1975 Act a few months after the *Cyanamid* decision. The reason why it was declared not to apply to Scotland must be that Parliament regarded it as unnecessary for Scotland because it would merely give effect to the existing Scots law on the remedy of interim interdict.

While the courts in Scotland would have regard to the likelihood of the defendant's succeeding in establishing the trade dispute defence, his Lordship would not expect them to accord any special priority to the defence beyond what it might seem to deserve in the circumstances of a particular case. That was exactly the effect that section 17(2) was, in his view, intended to produce and did produce in England.

LORD SCARMAN, concurring in dismissing the appeals, said that two questions arose. The first question, under section 29(1), was when a dispute between an employer and a trade union was not a "trade dispute". The answer seemed simple and conclusive—when it fell outside the definition in the subsection. But if Mr Buckley was correct, the subsection was not conclusive. He relied on the case law for the proposition that a dispute which on the face of it appeared to be within the subsection might prove on investigation to be outside it.

The second question arose on section 17(2). On an application for an interlocutory injunction against a party who claimed to have a defence that he acted in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute, what measure of regard were the courts to have to "the likelihood" of his establishing the defence at the trial? The subsection, by its silence, left the answer to the courts.

His Lordship reviewed the legislative purpose of the two Acts and statute and case law since 1906, and said that so far as the 1974 Act was concerned, the legislative purpose was clear—to sweep away not only the structure of industrial relations created by the Industrial Relations Act, 1971, which it was passed to repeal, but also the restraints of judicial review which the courts had been fashioning one way or another since the enactment of the Trade Disputes Act, 1906. The court of inquiry into the Grunwick affair (of which his Lordship had been chairman) put it correctly when it said (para. 58 Cmnd. 6922): "The policy [of the statutes] is to exclude 'trade disputes' . . . from judicial review by the courts . . . . There is substituted for judicial review of trade disputes an advisory, conciliation and arbitration process with Acas as the statutory body to operate it."

That policy was achieved by those sections of the Act which imposed restrictions on legal liability and legal proceedings (sections 13 to 17); by the wide meaning given to "trade dispute" by section 29; and by the establishment of Acas. The law was now back to what Parliament had intended when it enacted the 1906 Act—but stronger and clearer. An act done in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute was not actionable in tort on the ground only that it induced a breach of contract or interfered with the performance of a contract or with another person's trade, business or employment: section 13. Trade union and employers' associations were not liable in tort for actions done in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute: section 14. Restrictions were placed by section 17 on the grant of interlocutory injunctions against parties claiming, or likely to claim, the statutory defence.

His Lordship considered against that background the meaning given to "trade dispute" in section 29. He totally rejected the contention that the "predominant motive"—the campaign by ITF against flags of convenience—was political, not industrial. He further totally rejected the proposition through reliance on *Conway v Wade* and *The Camilla M* that an extraneous motive, if it was the predominant motive, would prevent a dispute from being a trade dispute even though it appeared to fall within the subsection. *The Camilla M* must be overruled. All that section 29 (1) required was that the dispute be connected with one or more of the matters it mentioned. If it was connected, it was a trade dispute, and it was immaterial whether the dispute also related to other matters or had an extraneous, for instance, a political or personal, motive.

The basic error in *The Camilla M* was in the proposition which the court accepted that "not every dispute connected with terms or conditions of employment . . . was necessarily a trade dispute" and that "some limitation of those statutory words was necessary". The legislative purpose of the Act was such that no limitation on the ordinary meaning of the simple English words used by the statute was permissible. Judicial decision could not impose limitations on the language of Parliament where it was clear that no limitation was intended.

The *Cyanamid* decision had a fateful significance for trade unions engaged in trade disputes. On balance of convenience an employer would ordinarily have no difficulty in showing that action to disrupt his business contemplated or undertaken by members of the union with which he was in dispute would cause him serious, even catastrophic, loss, and little difficulty in showing that the status quo should be preserved until full investigation at trial. Yet if that argument should prevail, the union's bargaining counter would disappear. Its power to bring instant and real pressure on the employer would be denied. Section 17 (2) was introduced by the 1975 Act after the *Cyanamid* decision and restored the old law. Under the subsection the court must have regard to the likelihood of the defence of acts done in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute being established before deciding whether or not to grant an interlocutory injunction. The measure of the regard was the critical question.

Both his Lordship's brethren treated the likelihood as an element to be weighed in the balance of convenience. His Lordship did not. He saw it as a separate factor to which regard was to be had. The legislative purpose, or policy, of the Act was that if there was a trade dispute there was immunity or restriction of civil liability for acts done in contemplation or furtherance of the dispute. There was to be—outside the criminal courts—no judicial review of such acts. The existence of so sweeping a legislative purpose led his Lordship to conclude that if there was a likelihood as distinct from a mere possibility of a party establishing the statutory defence, no interlocutory injunction should ordinarily be issued—though the subsection did leave a residual discretion with the court.

In the instant case, however, the difficulties did not arise. It appeared a practical certainty, on the evidence, that whatever the other reasons for its campaign against flags of convenience, the union was engaged in a dispute with the shipowner which was connected with the terms and conditions of employment on his ship and in the shipping industry generally.

Solicitors: Holman, Fenwick & Willan; Clifford-Turner.

SPORT

Football

Liverpool to review Keegan return as Ward agrees to join Forest

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

Kevin Keegan, whose contract with SV Hamburg expires next summer, is expected to meet officials of his former club, Liverpool, next week to discuss a possible return to Anfield. Although Keegan has not yet decided against signing a new contract with his German club, he is considering offers from half a dozen clubs in Europe and the United States. Should he return to Britain, his first obligation would be to Liverpool.

Yesterday the Liverpool secretary, Peter Robinson, pointed out that the club had an agreement with Keegan and Hamburg that they would retain first option should the England international return to the Football League. Mr Robinson said: "I would not like to say whether this agreement is legally binding. It could possibly be considered a restraint of trade, but it was willingly signed by Kevin who has said that he would not do anything without talking to us. We would certainly want him back and we do have first option on his signature."

The relationship between Keegan and the Liverpool board is still excellent and although the club would not be expected to bring up the subject of the agreement if he decided to move to another continental side, they would hardly stand by if another Football League club showed interest. Indeed, their option on Keegan was written into the agreement with Hamburg because they feared that if he returned after a short period, one of their rivals may have outbid them. As it is, Liverpool's interest remains firm because they have been upstaged by Nottingham Forest in recent European Cup competitions and are aware that even a slight fall from their own high standards has led to reduced attendances and income. Keegan could reverse that trend.

Liverpool's first opportunity to discuss their proposals with Keegan will come next week when the England team assemble in London for next Wednesday's European Championship match against Bulgaria. Keegan is expected to tell the chairman, John Smith, that he will be having talks with Hamburg at Christmas and will not make a decision before then. However, Liverpool are sure to make an attractive offer and appeal to his loyalty. Although Keegan and his wife are happy in Germany it would not be surprising to see them return "home" before next season.

Nottingham Forest kept Liverpool under pressure yesterday by agreeing terms for the 23-year-old Brighton forward, Peter Ward. A fee of about £600,000 was mentioned but the full agreement is not expected to be announced until later in the week. In the meantime other clubs will show increased interest in the Forest forward, Tony Woodcock, who is tempted to follow Keegan into German football.

This will be second time that the Forest assistant manager, Peter Taylor, has signed Ward, who was attracted to Brighton from Burton Albion in 1975. At that time Mr Taylor was manager of Brighton and his judgment was proved accurate when Ward scored a club record of 36 goals in the following season.

Ward suffered from declining form after being acclaimed as a future England international. He caught the eye of the England manager, Ron Greenwood, but perhaps too soon after being taken out of non-league football. This season he has scored only four goals and his frustration led to a request for a transfer.

Fitzpatrick on shorter list

By Norman Fox

Scotland, needing to beat Belgium in Brussels tomorrow week to retain a chance of qualifying for next summer's European Championship, recall three potential goal-scorers, Wallace, Jordan and Derek Johnstone, in a party of 20. But the team will be without McQueen, Gemmill and, once again, Gray, who is not considered fully fit for an international.

Gemmill, captain and scorer against Austria last month, when a 1—1 draw left Scotland with little further interest in the championship, has had to drop out because of a serious knee injury. This has left a vacancy in the party for a young Bristol City player, Tony Fitzpatrick, who has been included in two previous groups without being called upon to play. While with St Mirren he was chosen in the original World Cup party of 40.

PARTY: A. Rough (Partick Thistle), G. Wood (Everton), G. Burley (Ipswich Town), W. Jardine (Rangers), A. Gray (Nottingham Forest), A. Hanson (Liverpool), D. Johnstone (Rangers), K. Burns (Nottingham Forest), W. Miller (Aberdeen), J. Munro (St Mirren), A. Hartford (Everton), J. Wark (Ipswich Town), G. Souness (Liverpool), A. Fitzpatrick (Bristol City), D. Narey (Dundee United), K. Dalglish (Liverpool), I. Wallace (Coventry City), J. Jordan (Manchester United), J. Robertson (Nottingham Forest), A. Graham (Leeds United).

Adamson given more time

The Leeds United board gave the manager, Jimmy Adamson, a vote of confidence to carry on at Elland Road yesterday. He spent over three hours with the directors outlining his plans for the future and the efforts he intends to make to bring about an improvement in form and results.

Eric Houghton, an Aston Villa director, was yesterday asked for his resignation by the club board. Mr Houghton and a fellow director, Douglas Ellis, had opposed the other three directors at an extraordinary general meeting at Villa Park on November 1, but lost their campaign.

Motor racing

A turbo-charged summit meeting in Paris

By John Blunsden

Representatives of grand prix race organizers, sponsors, car constructors and drivers are in Paris today for what many see as the most crucial meeting yet of the Formula One Commission, the decision-making arm of the sport's ruling body, the Federation Internationale du Sport Automobile (FISA). Bernard Ecclestone, president of the Formula One Constructors' Association (FOCA), will be in the chair.

Likely to be discussed is the turbo-charged engine, on which rival teams are deeply divided. Renault have proved that, thanks to technology, a 1.5 litre turbo-charged engine is more than a match for the three-litre, usually aspirated engines which have formed the backbone of grand prix racing since 1966.

Ferrari, with Fiat money, and Alfa Romeo plan to counter-attack the French with their own turbo-charged engines, but for most of the small teams who comprise the bulk of FOCA membership, and who rely heavily on outside sponsorship, the high cost of turning to turbo-charged engines to remain competitive is beyond their reach. Several could be expected to pull out.

The publicity spin-off of a sport reaching an estimated 800m television viewers and 120m readers world wide is highly attractive to a big car manufacturer with turbo-engined production cars in the pipeline (even though these are being developed for economy rather than for extra performance), but the smaller teams argue that this vast audience will disappear (along with their own sponsors) if grand prix racing degenerates into a boring contest between a dozen or so cars.

A compromise solution amending the 2—1 equivalent ratio between the capacity of turbo-charged and normally aspirated engines cannot be totally successful because the power advantage of the turbo engine varies considerably according to atmospheric pressure. If a decision is taken today, it must be rubber-stamped by the full FISA executive committee before December 31 if it is to be implemented by January 1, 1982.

Meanwhile shorter-term grand prix prospects are far from discouraging. Next year's world championship could comprise a record 18 rounds with the addition to the calendar of races in Mexico City and Las Vegas, although two or three existing tracks could disappear through lack of money.

Athletics

Board not to act over reported payments

By Cliff Temple
Athletics Correspondent

The allegations in a newspaper report last Sunday that a number of named British athletes had received excessive and illegal expense money for competing in an athletics meeting at Gateshead last year, did not constitute sufficient evidence for the British Amateur Athletic Board to act, David Shaw, the board secretary, said at a press conference in London yesterday.

"The situation over Gateshead remains unchanged. We already knew of the allegations, and the Gateshead organizers have been asked for full details, but we have not yet received an official reply", he said.

Reports in the Sunday People claimed that a number of current British and foreign internationals had received excessive expense money together with the exact amounts they were alleged to have been paid.

With the 1978 Edinburgh Highland Games accounts already under investigation, officials of the International Amateur Athletic Federation are known to be keen to get both matters cleared up one way or the other very soon.

"The investigations are being pursued with careful haste", Mr Shaw said. "Athletics authorities have to uphold the rules, but they also have to consider natural justice. The whole area is a legal minefield."

The BAAB announced yesterday that two members of their Olympic elite squad for the 1,500 metres, world record holder Sebastian Coe and European champion Steven Ovett, will not have to run in the final Olympic trial race next June. Although this does not mean they have yet been selected for Moscow and both will still have to prove their fitness next season, it does eliminate the likelihood of the pair having to race each other unnecessarily before the Olympics.

Under the original scheme any event with more than two elite athletes would necessitate a trial race. The 1,500 metres group rose to five yesterday with the inclusion of European junior champion, Graham Williamson, joining Coe, Ovett, John Robson and David Moorcroft, the Commonwealth Games champion and the fastest man in the world at the distance last year.

Busy programme. Next year's programme is geared to the Olympic build-up, with a concentration of overseas fixtures in May, easing off in June, but the post-Moscow period contains some interesting fixtures, notably a match for the first time in Peking, with the United States, Germany, Italy and Finland also due to compete against the host country, on September 25 and 26. Britain have been invited to compete in an eight-nation contest in Tokyo the previous week (September 19-20) and hope to send a strong team to redeem their failure in a similar event last year.

Cricket

England prepare for bumper feast

From John Woodcock Cricket Correspondent Brisbane, Nov. 12

As they usually do, England made hard work of batting here today. Having been put in by Queensland, on a damp pitch and a green one, they were bowled out for 176. Queensland, in reply, were 30 for two when, 40 minutes early, bad light followed by torrential rain put an early end to the first day's play of the tour.

Only Randall, going in first for the first time in Australia, made confident runs for England, though Brearley looked in goodish form. It was symbolic of what the side is expecting that Brearley was to be seen in the nets this morning, just as the game was about to start, with Larkins throwing bouncers at him from halfway down the pitch. Not every one was a bouncer—that would have been too predictable—but a lot of them were and the message was clear enough. The third member of the group was the assistant manager, Ken Barrington, who found this the best way of preparing for a short-pitched battle when he was touring the West Indies.

This was not a day for under-pitching, though. With the ball swinging about, and the pitch wanting for pace, even Thomson bowled a mostly full length. Conditions were so different, I am afraid, from those to be expected in Perth in the first Test in a month's time that Thomson's lack of success (he took none for 26 in eight overs) is unlikely to have been of much significance.

The fact that he looks horribly fit may count for more in the long run. His first ball, and the first of the match, went for four wides down the leg side; his fastest ball something like three-quarter pace. It was much the same in 1974-75: when he played for Queensland against Denness's side he kept a good deal up his sleeve.

Randall is benefiting from having come to Australia early, for a month's Pennant cricket in Perth. While there, he played an innings of 182. This morning he drove Thomson twice for four in his first over, past extra cover and then wide of mid-off. The drive was his best and most productive stroke.

He has not opened an innings on tour since doing so with Boycott in the last Test match against New Zealand at Auckland in March, 1978. But in so far as he can, with so peripatetic a method, he plays fast bowling effectively (witness his 174 in the Centenary Test of 1977) and the more runs he makes going in first the happier Brearley can feel about coming in at number six and the less pressure there will be on Boycott.

Queensland's most successful bowler was Rackemann, playing in only his second first class match and without a first class wicket until today. Tall, fair and brisk medium, he bowled a better line than the others, which is not, in fact, saying much. Schuller, left arm over the wicket and also of medium pace, swung the ball enough to have both Boycott and Gower caught at first slip.

Gooch, fending off Rackemann, was caught at short leg; Willey, playing across the line, was leg-before to Cosier's gentle pace; Brearley was caught at slip off a ball that would have got most people out. The best partnership was one of 58 for the fifth wicket between Brearley and Randall, which ended when Randall was caught at the wicket trying to square cut Rackemann for the four that would have taken him to his 100. England's last five wickets fell ingloriously, if all too typically, for 22.

Had Brearley won the toss this morning his intention had been to field. When, 20 minutes after tea, England's chance came to do so, Wessels was soon caught at third slip off Lever, and Dilley, who made quite a promising start, had Broad caught at mid-on, mishooking.

For the main matches the promoters, which broadly speaking means Mr Packer, are expecting huge crowds, though today's play was watched, as it happens, by fewer people than came to see England play Queensland a year ago. The interest in this triangular tour is enormous. The fact that the Ashes, for good reasons, are not at stake, makes no difference either way.

The first ball I saw bowled in Australia last Saturday morning was on television. The bowler was Richard Hadlee, of Christchurch and Nottinghamshire, the batsman, Keppler Wessels, of Bloemfontein and Sussex; Hadlee's captain was Brian Davison, of Bulawayo and Leicestershire. The match, as you will no doubt have guessed, was between Tasmania and Queensland, and it eas won, to Queensland's surprise, by Tasmania. Australian cricket is fast becoming an open market. Of the three Chappell brothers, for instance, Greg is currently captaining Queensland, Ian is captaining South Australia, and Trevor is playing for New South Wales.

Having beaten Queensland on Saturday, Tasmania accounted for New South Wales yesterday, also in the McDonald Cup, which is the Australian version of the Gillette competition. In the New South Wales side were seven former Packer players—McCosker, Gilmour, Edwards, Walters, Pascoe, O'Keefe and Trevor Chappell; in Tasmania's there was none. If England need reassurance, which they must, this will have helped to provide it. The outstanding batsman of the Australian weekend was Davison, the best bowler was Richard Hadlee.

Tasmania's second victory also pointed to Brearley's good sense in standing out against playing under the "circle rule" which now applies in Australia's limited-over cricket. In theory, aimed as it is against the placing of purely protective fields, it has much to recommend it; in practice it can leave a side, as in Hobart yesterday, at an unreasonable disadvantage. For the first 15 overs of a limited-over game the fielding side is obliged to have nine men within 30 yards of the bat; for all remaining overs they must have six within the 30-yard circle.

What happened in Hobart was this. After a start delayed by rain New South Wales scored 191 for four off 38 overs. Following a further delay Tasmania were left, on a mathematical calculation, with 91 to win in 18 six-ball overs. To score at 5.03 runs an over for 18 overs, with 10 wickets in hand, is obviously much easier than to do so for 38 overs, especially when, as now, it is illegal for 15 overs to man the boundaries against the side batting second.

Until refinements are made to it, this "circle rule" is better left as an experimental one, as the England party have managed, with some difficulty, to persuade the Australian Board. The six-ball over, by the way, has become mandatory in all Australian cricket for the first time for 50 years.

ENGLAND XI First Innings

D. W. Randall, c Madders b Rackemann	97
G. Boycott, c G. Chappell b Schuller	11
D. I. Gower, c G. Chappell b Schuller	2
G. A. Gooch, c Kent b Rackemann	11
P. Willey, l-b-w, b Cosier	1
*J. M. Brearley, c Cosier b Rackemann	16
G. Miller, c Broad, b Rackemann	16
†B. L. Bairstow, c Thomson b Carlson	1
G. R. Dilley, not out	4
J. K. Lever, c Madders b Rackemann	0
M. Hendrick, b Broad	1
Extras (B—1, LB—3, NB—5, W—7)	16
Total	176

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—46, 2—58, 3—84, 4—96, 5—154, 6—159, 7—170, 8—175, 9—175.

BOWLING: Thomson, 8—1—26—0; Rackemann 14—7—25—5, Schuller 12—2—39—2, Carlson 11.2—1—58—1; Cosier 10—2—17—1; Hohns 4—0—15—0; Broad 1.3—1—0—1.

QUEENSLAND First Innings

K. C. Wessels, c Gooch b Lever	2
W. R. Broad, c Willey b Dilley	6
M. P. Kent, not out	14
*G. S. Chappell, not out	5
Extras (w 1, n-b 2)	3
Total (2 wickets)	30

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—3, 2—15.

Sharma inspires recovery

Jaipur, November 12. Despite a bad start yesterday, India's young Central Zone team did remarkably well against the powerful Pakistani side here today, scoring 270 for eight declared. Parthasarthy Sharma, Central Zone's captain, who played in five Tests for India and is the side's most experienced player, declared the innings 33 runs behind Pakistan's first innings total for 303 for four declared.

Sharma was the highest scorer for Central Zone, making 70 sparkling runs in 155 minutes

SCORES: Pakistanis, 303 for 4 dec and 27 for 1; Central Zone, 270 for 8 dec (P. Sharma 70, Y. Telang 66, A. Bhanot 58; Wasim 3 for 38).—Reuter.

West Indians take stock

Melbourne, Nov 12.—The West Indians face a serious reappraisal after a middle-order batting collapse on the second day of their three-day match against Geelong and District at Geelong near here today.

The openers, Haynes and Rowe, put on 96 for the first wicket and the West Indians looked set for a big total. The 20-year-old fast bowler, Scott, had suffered most, but he was soon to have revenge.

His opening partner, Beames, broke through when he had Rowe caught behind for 37 and one over later he dismissed Kallicharran, who was caught at second slip without scoring. Then Scott, who had been having a dismal match, cut loose with a spell of lively pace which brought him three wickets at a cost of only 20 runs.

He struck first at his greatest tormentor when he had Haynes neatly caught for 64. With his confidence restored, Scott quickly added King to his collection when King had scored only 10 quick runs.

SCORES: West Indians, first innings, 224 (D. Haynes 64); Geelong and District, first innings, 91-5.—Reuter.

Sydney, Nov. 12.—Ian Chappell, the former Australian cricket captain, has been suspended for three weeks following an incident in the Sheffield Shield match between Tasmania and South Australia in Devonport earlier this month. The details of the incident were not given.—Reuter.

Robins will foot bill

Derrick Robins still hopes to bring a multi-racial South African cricket side to England next summer—even if Britain's participation in the Moscow Olympics is in jeopardy.

In a letter from his Cape Town home to two British daily newspapers, Mr Robins says he would foot the bill "for whatever protection is now needed in England to go about one's lawful occasion." He has written to various counties to discover their views on playing a team picked from a tour party of six blacks, six coloureds and six whites.

Golf

Course manners maketh Lyle Europe's smoothest man

From Peter Ryde
Athens, Nov 12

The victory of the United States in the World Cup at the Glyfada Golf Club, alongside the airport of Athens, was a personal triumph for Hale Irwin, this year's US Open champion. His greater experience and steadier nerves rallied his partner, John Mahaffey, whose third-round 80 had threatened a collapse of confidence.

When victory was in danger Irwin produced his best round; he reacted with spirit and dignity to the insult flung on the eve of the tournament at two of golf's most popular figures, Hugh Baiocchi and Dale Hayes, of South Africa.

With the shabby removal of that country and with an absurdly weak entry from Australia, whose own season is at its height, the chances of the four home countries playing in their own zone were bright. Hardly less conspicuous than Irwin's effort was the growing reputation of Sandy Lyle, who provided the cutting edge of Scotland's brave attempt to catch the inevitable favourites.

Lyle's ability to match with a one-iron the best drives of the American champion emphasises the power behind one of the firmest and smoothest swings in the game.

It would be natural to attribute to reaction the relative decline of Severiano Ballesteros since the hour of his greatest triumph in the Open; it is much more attributable to the speed of Lyle's progress in his second full year as a professional, a progress that makes him, in my opinion, Europe's player of the year.

Nor should the supporting role of Brown be overlooked. Even he became bemused by the uncertainty of the putting surfaces. But his highest score, 77, was no higher than the worst of Mahaffey or several other good players. James was not in form. But unlike some, I feel there is a bright future for him and Brown, especially if they can absorb, without losing their individuality, some of Llye's perfect course manners.

Sensibly handled, these two can surely help to form the nucleus of a fine, new crop of golfers, a feeling enhanced by King's excellent play for three rounds and the closing 71 of Smyth, from Ireland. Scotland's second-place finish is the best among the home countries since Ireland's victory in 1958.

For a time the withdrawal of South Africa cast a deep depression, but Baiocchi and Hayes left knowing they had earned more good will than they could possibly have done had they won, which might easily have been the case. What remained in doubt was the future of the World Cup. Afflicted by the creeping paralysis of slow play and the anaemic attitude of some of its members, could it survive the political ramifications by which all global sport is bedevilled?

By the end of the week the feeling was that it could. Most in its favour is the sheer robustness of the tournament, which for 27 years has enabled it to rise above international squabbles, waning patriotism, airline strikes and floods. There also came the realisation that the political hitch was something which, like rain, can afflict every sporting event and has to be endured. Finally, the weather changed to perfection, soothing jangled nerves and stale concentration, minimising the cancer of slow play and casting a silver cloak across the Aegean Sea.

What seems likely is that the World Cup will go to Japan next year, which it first visited in 1957, when it scored its greatest missionary triumph, converting, it now seems, almost the entire country to the game. That would mean excluding South Africa, who cannot get visas to Japan, although after their treatment this year South Africa might well prefer to exclude themselves.

TEAM SCORES: 575: US (H. Irwin 74, 70, 72, 69; J. Mahaffey 67, 71, 80, 72); 580: Scotland (A. Lyle 72, 73, 73, 69; K. Brown 73, 72, 77, 71); 590: Spain (A. Garrido 74, 76, 66, 73; M. Piñero 73, 77, 77, 74); 594: Brazil (J. Gonzalez 75, 71, 72, 72; R. Navarro 75, 73, 81, 77); 595: Taiwan (Lu Hsi-Chuen 71, 75, 72, 77; Chen Tze-Ming 75, 76, 74, 79); 597: Ireland (D. Smyth 74, 79, 74, 71; E. Polland 76, 74, 74, 75); 599: Canada (J. Nelford 73, 74, 75, 74; D. Halldorson 77, 74, 82, 73); Japan (K. Yoshikawa 71, 74, 75, 75; K. Inoue 76, 76, 78, 76); 600: France (J. Garaialde 74, 74, 76, 76; B. Pascasio 77, 76, 74, 74); 601: England (M. King 72, 73, 72, 79; M. James 81, 72, 76, 77).

INDIVIDUAL TOTALS: 285: H. Irwin (US); 287: B. Langer (West Germany); A. Lyle (Scotland); 288: J. Gonzalez (Brazil); 289 A. Garrido (Spain); 290: J. Mahaffey (US); 293: R. Muñoz (Venezuela); 293: K. Yoshikawa (Japan), Lu Hsi-Chuen (Taiwan), K. Brown (Scotland); 294: J. Nelford (Canada); 296: M. King (England).

Billiards

Dagley thrives on big breaks

Colombo, Nov 12.—Norman Dagley of England, twice the world champion, overwhelmed W. A. J. Weerasinghe (Sri Lanka) by 2,074 points to 822 in his third match in the World amateur billiards championship here yesterday.

Dagley had one double-century break of 224, and seven centuries. Weerasinghe's highest was 103. In the other matches, Bill Barrie (Australia) beat R. Sin Foo Lim (Singapore) 1,241—1,147 and Clive Everton (Wales) defeated Brian Bennett (New Zealand) 1,159—729.—Reuter.

Horst leads HA side

Rolf Horst (Purley and Middlesex) will lead a strong side representing the Hockey Association in their annual match against Cambridge University at Fenner's tomorrow, starting at 2.30 pm. The HA side includes the Great Britain goalkeeper, Ian Taylor.

HOCKEY ASSOCIATION XI: I. S. Taylor (Slough); R. Horst (Purley, captain), D. Craig (Southgate), J. L. Duthie (Southgate), A. Wallace (Southgate), G. N. Francis (Guildford), S. Malhouse (London University), I. S. Kullar (Beckenham), R. Leman (East Grinstead), C. J. Evans (Hounslow), S. Batchelor (Hounslow).

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated.

LEAGUE CUP: Fourth round replay: Arsenal v Brighton.

FIRST DIVISION: Everton v Leeds United (7.45).

THIRD DIVISION: Gillingham v Southend.

FOURTH DIVISION: Hartlepool v Wigan (7.15).

ALLIANCE PREMIERE LEAGUE: A. P. Leamington v Yeovil; Stafford Rangers v Northwich Victoria; Wealdstone v Bangor City.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE CUP: Third round: Bridgend v Kidderminster; Bognor Regis v Fareham Town; Dunstable v Dartford.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Matlock v Goole.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Harlow v Boreham Wood; Hayes v Barking. First division: Camberley v Maidenhead; Clapton v Ware; Farnborough v Wokingham; Kingstonian v Metropolitan Police; Walton and Hersham v Bromley; Wembley v Epsom. Second division: Cheshunt v Billericay; Rainham v Corinthian Casuals; Worthing v Eastbourne United.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: FA XI v Cambridge University (at Cambridge City).

FA TROPHY: Second qualifying round replays: Hitchin v Alvechurch; Witney v Harwich and Parkeston.

RUGBY UNION: Nottingham v Leicester (7.15).

RUGBY LEAGUE: BBC floodlight competition, quarter-final round: Leigh v Widnes.

Show jumping

TORONTO: Nations Cup: 1, Canada. Equal 2, United States, Britain; 3, Switzerland. Team standings: 1, Canada 47pts; 2, Switzerland 37pts; 3, United States 36; 4, Britain, 34. Individual: 1, H. Smith (GB), 20pts; 2, W. Gabathuler (Switzerland), 19; 3, I. Miller (Canada), 17.

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SPORT

Fixture bottleneck uncorks more variations for 1980 cricket season

Last of the summer wine, centenary vintage

By Richard Streeton

Tours by West Indies and Australia ensure that excitement and interest will be sustained throughout the 1980 English cricket season. The fixtures show that West Indies play five Test matches during a three-month visit before the Australians arrive in August for the special Test to mark the centenary of Test cricket in England. In addition, both teams will meet England in two one-day international matches. The rest of the programme for both the touring and English players shows several variations from previous summers. It reflects the game's growing problem of fixture congestion, particularly in the early weeks.

West Indies requested a late start to their tour because of heavy winter commitments and the extension of the Caribbean season through April and into May. Their opening first-class match, therefore, against Worcestershire is as late as May 10 and the other end of their programme is curtailed by the Australian visit. West Indies will not be able to fit in the customary match with MCC at Lord's and their fixtures with Middlesex and Essex will be limited to two one-day matches against each county.

Other fixture problems arose from the desire to reorganize the season's opening weeks. Three lots of championship matches are being played this year on April 30, May 3 and May 7 before the Benson and Hedges Cup gets under way. The preliminary Benson group matches have been allotted only two days instead of three for completion

In the past, Benson and championship fixtures have alternated in the first three weeks. The players, especially, will welcome the chance to settle down while the weather is at its worst before becoming involved in the hurly-burly of cup cricket. With the first one-day match for the Prudential trophy at Headingley starting on May 28, the new arrangements make it impossible for England to hold a Test trial to help the selectors.

It was on September 6, 1880, at the Oval that England and Australia played the first Test match in England, more than three years after they had first met in Australia. The 1980 centenary Test will start at Lord's on August 28.

The Australians open their programme with two one-day matches against Hampshire on August 6 and 7. Every county meets either the West Indians or Australians in some sort of fixture and there will usually be Sunday play in the case of three-day games which start on Saturdays.

Principal matches

April

23—Lord's—MCC v Essex (Champion County 1979)
Oxford—University v Gloucestershire

[illegible]

May

[illegible]

June

[illegible]

July

2—Bristol—Gloucestershire v West Indians
Burton on Trent (Allied Breweries Grd)—Derbyshire v Leicestershire

[illegible]

August

[illegible]

September

[illegible]

Benson and Hedges Cup

May

[illegible]

June

[illegible]

July

19—Final (at Lord's)

Gillette Cup

July

[illegible]

August

15—Semi-final round

September

6—Final (at Lord's)

John Player League

May

[illegible]

June

[illegible]

July

[illegible]

August

[illegible]

September

[illegible]

Minor counties

May

[illegible]

June

[illegible]

July

[illegible]

August

[illegible]

September

[illegible]

SPORT

Tennis

Four British climbers in foothills at Wembley

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

John Lloyd: faces McEnroe.

The singles draw for the Benson and Hedges men's tennis tournament, which begins at Wembley this afternoon, is a reminder of one or two unpalatable facts about the British game. With Christopher Mottram competing in the Far East there was no British player good enough to qualify on merit for the 32-man field at Wembley. Mark Cox, John Lloyd, and Robin Drysdale were granted "wild card" places filled at the organizers' discretion and Richard Lewis, beaten in the qualifying competition, has a second chance only because two men dropped out.

A year ago British tennis briefly trod the peaks. The women had beaten the United States in the Wightman Cup series and the men had reached the final of the world team championship for the Davis Cup. But Britain were ill equipped to sustain such high altitude climbing and this year they plunged back to the foothills.

The truth is that unless and until Britain have the all-weather facilities for playing tennis throughout the year, a nation that is the size of Utah and has a hostile climate cannot hope to keep pace with the game's advance elsewhere. The only comforting factors are the continuing inspiration of Wimbledon, which still carries more prestige than any other tournament, and the impressive traditions of the land where tennis was born.

It would be unreasonable to expect much from British competitors at Wembley, or in the women's tournament at Brighton next week. Cox's first round opponent is Harold Solomon, ranked ninth in the world, whom he has never beaten. Lloyd plays the United States champion, John McEnroe, ranked No 3 behind Bjorn Borg and Jimmy Connors. Tom Gorman is less intimidating but is ranked much higher than Drysdale, who has to play him. Lewis plays Tom Okker, who has reached the semi-final and quarter-final rounds at Wimbledon in consecutive years.

Of these matches, only Solomon v Cox and Gorman v Drysdale appear on today's order of play. Five competitors—McEnroe, Gene Mayer, Peter Fleming, Wojtek Fibak and Okker—miss the first day. Yesterday they were contesting at least one final in Stockholm (in McEnroe's case, both).

McEnroe is seeded to play Guillermo Vilas in the Wembley singles final. Solomon is the only other "top-tenner" in the field for what is a run of the mill grand prix tournament, in spite of its distinction in the context of the British fixture list. Yet the singles winner will take a cheque for £15,000 and the doubles winners, £2,400 each. The singles seedings suggest that the quarter-final pairings will be McEnroe v Fibak; Fleming v Mayer; Brian Gottfried v Solomon; and Tim Gullikson v Vilas. The doubles draw will be made today.

Good news for Britain is that in 1980 Lloyd should start climbing back to the distinguished standard of achievement his talent justifies and his pride demands. For more than 12 months he and the former Chris Evert were distracted by courtship and marriage. "She's slipped a little bit at her level and I've slipped a lot at mine." In the near future they intend to sacrifice easy money and the pleasure of each other's company in order to seek professional advancement. "The toughest part will be the first three months of the year. We shall be together only one week in three."

Rugby Union

Old could prove answer to an English prayer

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

Alan Old, the former England and Yorkshire stand-off half, who has played no county rugby this season, has been recalled by the northern selectors for their divisional match against the All Blacks at Otley on Saturday. John Carleton, the Orrell and England B player, has been preferred to Peter Squires, who has won more caps (29) on the wing for his country than anyone else.

The selection of Old, now 34, might herald his return at the highest level when the England side to meet New Zealand is revealed next Monday. If things go well for the half-backs at Otley, the same could apply to his partner, Steve Smith, with whom he played three internationals in 1973 and 1974. Smith this season has recaptured much of the pace and sparkle that characterised his early representative form.

Old won the last of his 16 caps in Paris two seasons ago and was then, unluckily in my view, apparently discarded for good. But there can be little doubt that England need a stand-off, tactically wise and secure, who is accurate enough with his boot to exploit a potential All Black vulnerability.

Carleton, strong, fast and resolute, enjoyed a good tour with England in the Far East and will play in his Lancashire position on the right wing. The North XV includes six of the Lancashire backs, with Tony Wright offered a chance to underline his blossoming skills at centre and Kevin O'Brien, the full back, to add to the 84 points he has notched in five Thorn county championship matches.

Nigel Melville, the highly promising young Otley and Yorkshire scrum-half, has been added to England's revised party for training at Leicester next Sunday. Cotton has been called up instead of Gary Pearce (Northampton) and Adrian Alexander, the Harlequin flanker, replaces David Forfar, of Leicester.

The New Zealand captain, Graham Mourie, who has played in all of the tour matches so far, stands down from the side to meet the Anglo-Scots at Dundee tomorrow. Andy Haden leads the team which includes only six of the XV who beat Scotland 20—6 last Saturday. Mourie is acting as temporary coach of the All Blacks in place of Eric Watson, who remains in Edinburgh for treatment of haemorrhoids.

Alastair McHarg, the London Scottish and former Scotland lock, has withdrawn from the Anglo-Scots side because of a back injury. His place goes to Jeremy Campbell-Laberton (London Scottish and the Army).

NORTHERN DIVISION (v All Blacks, on Saturday): K. O'Brien (Broughton Park); J. Carleton (Orrell), A. Wright (Sale), A. Bond (Sale), M. Slemen (Liverpool); A. Old (Sheffield), S. Smith (Sale); C. White (Gosforth), P. Simpson (Sale), F. Cotton (Sale), W. Beaumont (Fylde, captain), J. Syddall (Waterloo), R. Uttley (Wasps), P. Dixon (Gosforth), A. Neary (Broughton Park).

Replacements: P. Squires (Harrogate), P. Williams (Orrell), N. Melville (Otley), D. Tabern (Fylde), R. Tiller (Northern), J. Butler (Gosforth).

NEW ZEALANDERS (v Anglo-Scots XV, tomorrow): A. Hewson; G. Cunningham, T. Twigden, K. Keane, B. Ford; E. Dunn, M. Donaldson; R. Ketels, P. Sloane, B. Thompson, A. Haden (captain), J. Fleming, K. Stewart, M. Burgoyne, V. Stewart.

Racing

Stardom awaits the son of Nijinsky

By Michael Seely

Two great trainers showed us two outstanding prospects at Nottingham yesterday. Last year's champion trainer, Peter Easterby, produced his Daily Express Triumph Hurdle candidate, Gleason, to win the Merit Hurdle in a canter by three lengths. And Fred Rimell saddled Ian Urquhart's Western Rose to triumph by 25 lengths first time over fences in the Stour Novices Steeplechase.

Rounding off an intedesting afternoon we had Tom Jones's great old stayer John Cherry, who made such a gallant attempt to gain his second victory in the Cesarewich recently, winning the Rainworth hurdle. John Cherry was last successful over hurdles in the Long Walk Hurdle at Ascot's December meeting two yeads ago and that race is the eight-year-old's next target.

Gleason was never off the bridle and the handsome son of Nijinsky is to travel to Ascot next Saturday for the Aurelius Hurdle where he will cross swords with Rimell's fluent Cheltenham winner, Palace Dan.

Rimell has always been convinced that Western Rose's future would lie over fences and how emphatically the gelding proved him right. Although he fiddled one or two jumps the seven-year-old was never in danger.

The Kinnersley trainer is adopting a fighting policy with Western Rose. He intends to tackle I'm a Driver in the Buchanan Whisky Gold Cup at Ascot on Saturday.

The other outstanding achievement yesterday was Steve Smith-Eccles's treble on Pomme Star, Ladies Man and John Cherry. Smith-Eccles has won 24 races this season.

At Nottingham today Haighall is a confident selection to win the second division of the Tollerton Novices' hurdle. A useful stayer on the flat, Haighall won three races this summer when trained by Peter Easterby. Now in the capable hands of Ken Morgan from Wragg, Lincolnshire the five-year-old has taken well to hurdling.

Such Bliss is the form horse in the first division of the novice race. However, Hugo di Tours must be fancied with the main threat coming from Don Mancini a French import who won twice on the flat in the provinces this summer.

STATE OF GOING (official): Nottingham: hurdles, good; steeplechase, good to firm. Teesside Park: good. Ludlow: good. Tomorrow: Newbury: good to soft. Sedgefield: good to firm.

Elusive crown at last for the king of stylists

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

Arguably the most agreeable aspect of the recent flat racing season was Joe Mercer becoming champion jockey for the first time at the age of 45. For the many who have grown to like and admire this most polished of horsemen, Mercer's achievement is infinitely satisfying. In years to come the jockey's roll of honour would have looked incomplete without his name inscribed upon it.

Now that he has achieved one of his life's ambitions, he cannot conceal the immense satisfaction it has given him. And why should he? It was four years ago that he was told by the owners of West Ilsley that the job that he had held for the past 25 years was no longer his, and that with the future in mind they wanted a younger man. Accordingly, Mercer was replaced by Willie Carson, and ironically it is Carson's crown that he has just taken.

Many regard Mercer as the most stylish jockey riding today; combining as he does the strength of Lester Piggott and the artistry of Pat Eddery.

For any young jockey starting, Mercer would certainly be an ideal man to copy. One particular forte is his loyalty to his employers. In 30 years' race riding, he has had only three jobs: his apprenticeship with Fred Sneyd, who he says not only taught him all he knows about riding, but also how to behave; his post at West Ilsley, and his present position at Warren Place.

As for the future, Mercer has no intention of retiring. And that is surely good news for those who revel in the sight of one of his lovely, rhythmic finishes. "I am fit and healthy; I love riding good horses, and I've still got so much to look forward to," was the way that Mercer put it to me. "Like retaining the championship?" I asked. "Why not?" he replied, "now that I've got it, I must try to hang on to it."

At the start of last season, Mercer was a 33-1 chance for the jockey's title in the offices of the William Hill Organisation. Now the same firm is prepared to lay no more than 9-4 against him keeping it next year, which shows that they are only too well aware of the wealth of talent, tapped and untapped, at Warren Place that Mercer will be able to call upon in 1980.

Figures say it all for the flamboyant genius

By Michael Seely

Henry Cecil is a phenomenon. Three times champion trainer in the last four years this flamboyant genius has introduced a new dimension to the art of training racehorses.

According to Peter Jones, the compiler of that invaluable guide, Trainers Record, in 1978 Cecil won with over 32 per cent of his runners and those who staked a level pound showed a profit of £39.

This year his figures have been even more remarkable. His strike rate, that is to say proportion of winners to runners, has been 44 per cent and those who risked £1 on each runner would have been £69 to the good. Last year he saddled 60 winners of 109 races. This season Cecil has had 128 winners, beating the previous highest total this century (124 by William Elsey in 1905).

The stylish appearance and deceptively casual approach conceals an iron will and a burning determination to succeed at all costs. "My ambition is to top that trainers' table year after year", he told me. "At one point during the season it looked hopeless as Dick Hern's Troy kept on winning one £100,000 race after another. But both Julie (his wife) and I were determined to beat Dick."

The turning point came at the Ascot September meeting. On Thursday Main Reef swept past his rivals to win the Cumberland Lodge Stakes. Then on the Saturday came Cecil's red letter day. Kris sprinted home to a five-length victory in the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes. Hello Georgeous, later to win the William Hill Futurity at Doncaster for Daniel Wildenstein, gave a dogged display to capture the Royal Lodge Stakes. And by way of a bonus the hitherto unraced filly, Evita, gave Lord Howard de Walden the second leg of a glorious double in the Blue Seal Stakes. From then on the race for the trainers' title was virtually over.

"I will never forget Cecil after Le Moss had won the Ascot Gold Cup for Carlo d'Alessio. The trainer's triumph at having won the Blue Riband for stayers was obviously at odds with the anguish he felt at the eclipse of his favourite horse, Buckskin. There were almost tears in the trainer's eyes as he looked sadly at Mr Wildenstein's great stayer in the unsaddling enclosure. "This is perhaps the best horse I have ever trained. But his old legs have gone at last.

Nottingham programme

1.15 COLWICK STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: selling: £410: 2m)
3 00p-303 Bill's Brother, P. Allingham, 10-11-12 .... I. Gebbie
4 0p- Clever One, W. Clay, 10-11-3 .... M. Elliott
5 0sf0 Blue Bath, D. Griffiths, 9-10-11 .... M. Stephens
6 rU-0 Mubil, D. Chapman, 7-10-7 .... P. Harman
7 00 Quick Review, Mrs P. Sly, 11-10-7 .... M. Bastard
8 00p-42f Rafflastyle, T. Kersey, 5-10-7 .... —
9 000-p0 Ettor, P. Green, 9-10-7 .... Miss A. Rowlands
10 Cronella, P. Green, 7-10-7 .... D. Wilkinson
11 00-0au4 Royal Wine, B. Richmond, 12-10-7 .... C. Kinane
12 4403uu Prisoner of Zenda, P. Pye, 7-10-7 .... D. Hyde

1.45 TOLLERTON HURDLE (Div I: novices: £648: 2m)

2.15 BINGHAM STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £1,073: 2m)

2.45 MANSFIELD STEEPLECHASE (Novices: £987: 3m)

3.15 CLIFTON HURDLE (Handicap: £777: 2½m)

3.45 TOLLERTON HURDLE (Div II: novices: £646: 2m)
... O'Neill, 4-10-10 .... Mr P. Scudamore 4
... J. Bissill, 4-10-10 .... S. Parkyn
... D. Weeder, 4-10-10 .... M. Gibson
... ndell, 4-10-10 .... A. Brown
... G. Hubbard, 4-10-10 .... A. Coogan 4
... Underhill, 4-10-10 .... R. Mann
... M. Tate, 4-10-10 .... C. Smith
... D. Ringer, 4-10-10 .... S. McNeill 4
... est, 4-10-10 .... J. Guest
... ton, 4-10-10 .... —
... Carter, 4-10-10 .... —
... Crump, 4-10-10 .... C. Hawkins
... Weeden, 4-10-10 .... S. Smith-Eccles
... Morley, 4-10-10 .... B. R. Davies
... 9-2 Blood Orange, 11-2 Space Baby, 7-1 Show ... 16-1 others.

Teesside Park programme

1.15 MISS BELINDA HURDLE (Div I: 3-y-o novices: £492: 2m 176yd)
1 41 Always Vigilant, W. Haigh, 11-3 .... P. Charlton
3 140 Royal Nugget, G. Richards, 11-3 .... R. Barry
4 1 Tribal Warlord, M. Naughton, 11-3 .... J. O'Neill
6 Alensingh, J. Skilling, 10-10 .... A. Flint 4
7 00 Burlington Port, E. Carter, 10-10 .... M. Lowry
8 0 Cairnlo, M. W. Easterby, 10-10 .... D. Goulding
9 0 Cleveland, J. Mason, 10-10 .... S. Charlton
10 0 Coral World, A. Smith, 10-10 .... D. Swift 4
11 0 Dalymoin, D. Yeoman, 10-10 .... —

1.45 CHARLIE STOBBS HURDLE (Handicap: selling: £392: 2m 176yds)

2.15 JOHN JORROCKS CHASE (Handicap: £999: 3m 31yds)

2.45 MR SPONGE HURDLE (Handicap: £629: 2m 176yd)

3.15 DICK BREWITT CHASE (Novices: £897: 2½m)

3.45 MISS BELINDA HURDLE (Div II: 3-y-o novices: £494: 2m 176yd)
3 0 Arctic Timber, T. Barnes, 10-10 .... M. Barnes
4 0 Bluetran Queen, J. Skilling, 10-10 .... —
5 Dime A Dance, G. Richards, 10-10 .... R. Barry
6 Ekbalco, R. Fisher, 10-10 .... J. Errington 7
7 Elsa Clara, C. Tinkler, 10-10 .... J. Lamb
8 P Islay Mist, J. Mason, 10-10 .... S. Charlton
10 Kleiner Manny, W. Marshall, 10-10 .... N. Doughty
13 Mr Rafferty, Denys Smith, 10-10 .... C. Grant 4
14 04 North London, N. Callaghan, 10-10 .... J. O'Neill
15 Obsequious, E. Carter, 10-10 .... M. Lowry
19 Smiling Cavalier, J. Tierney, 10-10 .... G. Richards
20 Solo Grise, A. Smith, 10-10 .... D. Swift 4
21 44 Solar Emperor, W. Gray, 10-10 .... M. Hancock 7
22 Thalsong, N. Chamberlain, 10-10 .... D. McCaskill 7
23 Three Ways, M. W. Easterby, 10-10 .... P. Tuck 4
9-4 Shalotra, 3-1 North London, 4-1 Dime A Dance, 6-1 Mr Rafferty, 8-1 Elsa Clara, 12-1 Solar Emperor, Three Ways, 16-1 others.
* Doubtful runner

Teesside Park selections

By Our Racing Staff
1.15 Juli Kiss. 1.45 Allez Stanwick. 2.15 Border Brig. 2.45 Go Jack. 3.15 Igloo Fire. 3.45 Shalotra.

Ludlow programme

1.0 CRAVEN ARMS HANDICAP HURDLE (Handicap: selling: £376: 2m)
1 fpo Solar Salat, J. Bradley, 6-12-0 .... G. Davies 7
3 00-000f Farcroft (D), D. Lewis, 5-11-10 .... N. Hiskott 7
4 000-pf Inca Prince (D), B. Forsey, 6-11-7 .... B. Forsey
5 11u0-00 Warren Gorse (D), B. Richmond, 5-11-6 .... M. O'Shea
6 0-42074 Bonnie de Lyon, J. Peacock, 6-11-5 .... N. Breeze 7
11 f30f-p0 Arctic Flyer, F. Yardley, 6-10-11 .... W. Morris 7
13 0p00-u Announce, R. Clay, 6-10-9 .... M. Brisbourne 4
15 00-0202 Service Charge (D), B. Shaw, 6-10-8 .... Mr A. Wilson
16 324404 Bit Bent, J. Bosley, 5-10-7 .... S. Shilston 4

1.30 CULMINGTON CHASE (Novices: £708: 2m)

2.0 BRIMFIELD HURDLE (Div I: 3-y-o novices: £378: 2m)

2.30 CORVEDALE STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £802: 2m)

3.0 CLUN STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: amateurs: £823: 3m)

3.30 BRIMFIELD HURDLE (Div II: 3-y-o novices: £374: 2m)
... Bird Stream, D. Gandolfo, 10-4 .... M. Richards 7
2 f Brock Hill, C. Price, 10-4 .... F. Morris 4
3 Chamarel, S. Holland, 10-4 .... S. Brazier 7
5 0 Getting Warmer, D. Gandolfo, 10-4 .... P. Barton
9 Lord John, N. Gaselee, 10-4 .... W. Smith
10 u0 Mandy's Princess, S. Holland, 10-4 .... C. Tinkler
12 Patrick's Fair, D. H. Jones, 10-4 .... P. Barry 4
13 Planer Fayre, J. Johnson, 10-4 .... V. McKevitt 7
14 Prince of Arabia, W. Clay, 10-4 .... N. Clay
15 Rays Swallow, B. McMahon, 10-4 .... P. Wisham 7
16 000 Rowarth, S. Holland, 10-4 .... G. Thorner
17 0 Sash of Gold, I. Wardle, 10-4 .... M. William
18 Sherriffs Boy, M. Eckley, 10-4 .... S. Houlker 7
19 Solsbury Hill, G. Kindersley, 10-4 .... R. R. Evans
20 03 Wells O'Wearie, D. Gillard, 10-4 .... M. Barrett 7
2-1 Lord John, 3-1 Wells O'Wearie, 11-2 Getting Warmer, 7-1 Solsbury Hill, 10-1 Bird Stream, Prince of Arabia, 12-1 Rowarth, 20-1 others.

Ludlow selections

By Our Racing Staff
1.00 Bonnie de Lyon. 1.30 Cathy's Courtier. 2.00 Pit Your Wits. 2.30 Professor Plum. 3.00 Mermoney. 3.30 Lord John.

Nottingham selections

By Our Racing Staff
1.15 Quick Review. 1.45 Hugo Di Tours. 2.15 Redbin. 2.45 Valmony. 3.15 Parleur D'or. 3.45 HAIGHALL is specially recommended.

Flat statistics

Jockeys

	1	2	3	Unpl	Mts
J. Mercer	164	82	45	319	608
W. Carson	142	125	82	473	820
P. Eddery	125	115	96	469	805
G. Starkey	98	86	93	334	631
P. Cook	80	71	67	380	598
M. Birch	77	58	61	336	532
L. Piggott	77	54	40	232	405
G. Duffield	76	69	55	389	589

Trainers

	Horses	Races	Value
H. Cecil	76	128	£682,189
W. Hern	35	61	£564,675
M. Stoute	47	80	£284,555
B. Hills	38	56	£213,888
J. Dunlop	47	95	£210,398
H. Price	37	60	£304,235
R. Johnson Houghton	25	39	£195,040
J. Tree	17	29	£187,159

Owners

Sir M. Sobell	5	15	£339,761
R. Sangster	17	20	£157,537
D. Wildenstein	15	41	£161,911
Lord Howard de Walden	6	14	£125,438
Helena Springfield Ltd	3	7	£103,398
A. Shead	1	11	£99,258
C. d'Alessio	6	13	£99,064

Nottingham results

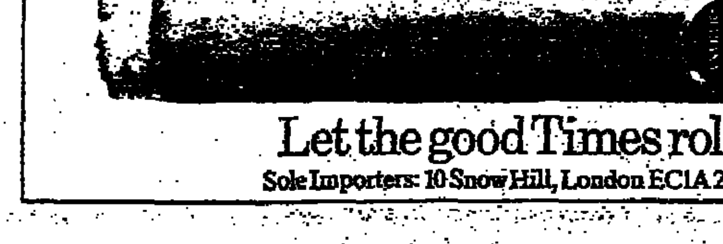
1.15 (1.17) LAKE HURDLE (£515: 2m)
Pomme Star, b c, by Yours—Nantana (Mrs E. Richards), 3-10-7 S. Smith Eccles (2-1 fav) 1
Stephouette .... F. Morris (20-1) 2
Chaperon .... P. Tuck (5-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 5-1 Spinky, Lampion, 10-1 Brahms and Liszt (4th), 16-1 Florrios Fancy, 20-1 Clubcane (5), 33-1 Appollo Kit, Allanstown, Asfour Sareea, Bardsealeisurepark, Calm Saint, Silken Sand, Sonic Cherry. 15 ran.
TOTE: Win, 24p; places, 11p, £2.80, 17p. Dual forecast: £16.94. CSF: £4.12. H. O'Neill, at Dorking. 2½l, 1l. Winner sold to Mr L. Furman, for 1,550 guineas.

2.45 (2.47) MERIT HURDLE (3-y-o: £2,368: 2m)
GLEASON, b c by Nijinsky—Gleam

Tark ...... S. J. O'Neill (33-1) 2
My Friendly Cousin
S. Smith Eccles (5-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 9-4 fav Kildimo Star, 5-1 Canit, 9-1 Silvery Blue, 33-1 Chieftains Cottage, Lucy Parker (4th). 8 ran.
TOTE: Win, 64p; places, 12p, 37p, 12p. Dual forecast: £2.73. CSF: £10.83. W. A. Stephenson, at Bishop Auckland. Hd, 4l.

Fontwell Park

1.30 (1.30) BOXGROVE HURDLE (Handicap: £614: 2m 1f)
Le Pretendant, b h, by Prince De Galles—Reine D'Etat (Mrs V. Rhodes), 8-10-5
H. Davies (7-1) 1
Gentle Rose .. P. J. Kerty (8-1) 2
Henry Bruce .. J. Suthern (20-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 9-2 fav Cumberland Reel, 5-1 Solway, Mr Linnet, 10-1 Playful Warrior, Scots Gambol (4th), 12-1 Fair Streak, Slipknot, 14-1 Jet On, 16-1 Miss Saddler, Sea Spray (p), 20-1 Green Signal, 33-1 Bogey Mora (p), Court God, Compton Pipedream.



THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

- **Stock markets**
  FT Ind 413.0 down 7.9
  FT Gilts 65.33 down 0.15
- **Sterling**
  $2.1105 up 1.85 cents
  Index 68.0 up 0.7
- **Dollar**
  Index 87.7 up 0.4
- **Gold**
  $393.5 up $3.0
- **3-month money**
  Inter-bank 15¼ to 15⅛
  Euro $ 15 3/16 to 15 5/16

IN BRIEF

No decision yet on Rolls-Royce future

Consultations continued yesterday over the future relationship between the National Enterprise Board and Rolls-Royce.

In the Commons, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry said that he was considering representations made by the NEB and would make an announcement when he was ready.

Discussions between the NEB and Whitehall are focused on finding a satisfactory formula. The NEB board is threatening to resign en masse if the Government brings Rolls-Royce back under the direct control of the Department of Industry.

Inchcape cuts losses

Inchcape plans to run down its loss-making Dutch cocoa trading company and dispose of it by the middle of next year. No new contracts will be entered into by Harborn Amster- by two members of the present management backed by two international commodity groups based in the Netherlands. Last year Harborn lost £17.9m in cocoa dealing.

Microchip venture

Q1 Corporation and the National Enterprise Board yesterday announced the completion of their negotiations for the formation of a new joint venture company, Q1 Europe. The new company will develop and manufacture multifunction micro-computer systems in the United Kingdom for marketing throughout Europe.

Shotton announcement

Special development area status for the north Wales town of Shotton will be announced in the Commons today by Mr Nicholas Edwards, secretary of state for Wales. The object is to provide government financial assistance to attract new employment opportunities to the area. Closures at Shotton will result in the loss of 6,420 jobs in the steelworks, and a further 2,500 jobs in ancillary industries.

Vauxhall men back

A vote yesterday by 270 key workers at the Vauxhall Motors car plant at Ellesmere Port on Merseyside will bring to an end a 13 week shutdown during which more than 8,000 workers have been idle. Company production losses of some 34,000 vehicles cost £120m.

£14m chloride plant

Vinatex, a joint venture of Norsk Hydro UK and Staveley Chemicals, is to build a new polyvinyl chloride plant at Staveley, near Chesterfield. The £12m plant is part of a two-phase scheme to expand output from 60,000 to 130,000 tons a year.

Top gas prices

Gas prices paid by British business consumers are among the highest in the world according to a survey carried out by the National Utility Service.

Urgent meeting sought

Chemicals manufacturers want an urgent meeting with Mr David Howell, Secretary of Sate for Energy, to resolve their long dispute with British Gas over supply and pricing policies.

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Brit Am & Gen	½ to 34½	Nowest Holst	17p to 108p
Bowa Shipley	5p to 287p	Oil Exploration	23p to 618p
[illegible]aross	12p to 740p	Stocklake Hldgs	4p to 104p
Lasmo	19p to 333p	Sunley B	5p to 590p
Marievale Con	30p to 290p	Ventersport	30p to 700p

Falls

Burton Group	15p to 255p	ICL	9p to 411p
Barclays Bank	7p to 393p	Ladbroke	9p to 153p
EMI	6p to 137p	Minorco	10p to 214p
Fisons	7p to 227p	Town & City	¼ to 16
Hammerson A	20p to 730p	Vickers	4p to 115p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells		Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.97	1.91	Norway Kr	11.05	10.55
Austria Sch	28.75	26.75	Portugal Esc	109.00	104.00
Belgium Fr	65.25	61.75	South Africa Rd	1.88	1.75
Canada $	2.55	2.48	Spain Pta	145.00	138.00
Denmark Kr	11.58	11.08	Sweden Kr	9.28	8.88
Finland Mkk	8.33	7.93	Switzerland Fr	3.67	3.45
France Fr	9.16	8.76	USA $	2.15	2.09
Germany Dm	3.97	3.75	Yugoslavia Dnr	48.50	45.50
Greece Dr	95.00	90.00			
Hongkong $	10.85	10.35			
Italy Lr	1810.00	1725.00			
Japan Yn	543.00	518.00			
Netherlands Gld	4.39	4.16			

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

MLR set to reach record level as interbank rate touches 16 per cent

By John Whitmore

The likelihood of a rise to a record level in the Bank of England's Minimum Lending Rate and in the clearing banks' base lending rates strengthened still further yesterday as money market interest rates continued to rise sharply with the three-month interbank rate at one stage touching 16 per cent.

The general conviction in financial markets last night was that MLR will have to go up to at least 15½ per cent, and more probably to 16 per cent, from its present level of 14 per cent.

The most probable day for the increase looks to be Thursday, when the Government will also be announcing its new target for monetary growth and details on the future of the banking "corset".

Any rise in MLR will automatically trigger an increase in the clearing banks' base lending rates. These already stand at a record level of 14 per cent, and any further significant increase could push the cost of overdrafts for many personal borrowers to around 20 per cent.

A rise in bank deposit rates would, moreover, prove particularly unwelcome to the building societies. The societies' share accounts are already looking distinctly uncompetitive in relation to other short term savings instruments, particularly after the recent upsurge in rates offered by local authorities.

The reasons for the present upward trend in interest rates are both domestic and international. On the domestic front, credit demand has been proving much stronger than had generally been expected.

The October figures released by the clearing banks last week showed a substantial increase in bank lending and, though the figures may have been distorted by the incidence of tax payments and tax rebates that companies had to finance during the month, several banks felt that there was also a strong underlying demand for loans.

In addition, the gilt-edged market has become increasingly nervous about the trend in government borrowing. Once again, the most recent figures may have been distorted, in this case by the timing of VAT payments. But the fact that last Friday's figures for central government finances in October showed a deficit rather than the expected surplus has done nothing to allay market nervousness.

Whether domestic interest rates would have risen any less sharply without the general rise that has been taking place in world interest rates is a moot point. Certainly, United Kingdom rates must now be considered to be potentially much more sensitive to international interest rate changes in the wake of last month's decision to abolish exchange controls.

How far the Government feels it has to go in raising MLR remains to be seen. It could well feel that the recent surge in bank lending will prove short-lived even without any official lead in raising interest rates.

It might also feel that the more serious problem is funding the Government's borrowing requirement—a problem that could be resolved by a sharp cut in the price of long term government debt.

Given the general uncertainty about the meaningfulness of the main monetary indicator (sterling M3) after the abolition of exchange controls, it seems that nothing less than a full monetary package, including a rise in MLR, will now be needed to restore confidence.

Any rise in MLR and bank base rates later this week will come too late to affect the planned increase in the building society lending rate from 11.75 per cent to 12.5 per cent in January. However, new punitive rates for house buyers are a virtual certainty in February.

Sterling jumped by 1.85 cents to close at $2.1105 against the dollar last night. The pound was buoyed by expectations of higher interest rates in London.

It climbed against all the major currencies as well as the dollar, with a rise of about 1 per cent in its trade-weighted index from Friday's level. This finished at 68 per cent of its end-1971 value, the highest trade-weighted level for two weeks.

The dollar was generally firmer yesterday, with particularly sharp rises against the Swiss franc and Japanese yen. It closed at SwFr 1.6665 to the dollar.

Tighter controls expected soon as result of big shipping fraud

By David Hewson

International measures to combat the multi-million pound problem of maritime crime are expected after the detection of a large scale shipping fraud in the Mediterranean.

At the centre of the affair is a 24-year-old cargo ship known variously during the last few months as the Betty, the Five Star, and the Aris, whose Jeddah-bound cargo worth $3m wound up in the hands of Christian Phalangist forces in Lebanon.

Mr Themistocles Savvas, aged 46, a leading Greek lawyer and former director-general of the port of Piraeus, and three other men are in prison in Greece facing charges in connexion with the case.

The Betty affair has sparked a controversial blacklist of shipping by the Saudi Arabian government, which has led to the rewriting of traditional shipping routes in the Mediterranean and Middle East.

The Saudis have banned from their ports not only all vessels which call at Lebanon en route, but all other ships operating under the same owner, whether they visit Lebanon or not.

As a result, owners throughout the world have had to reroute vessels heading for Jeddah, and they are considering imposing a contractual ban on visiting Lebanon for hirers using ships on time charter.

More important, the case is likely to herald a new intergovernmental initiative against an area of crime which is thought to have cost the world insurance market £100 million last year.

It was the predictability of the Betty's actions which first drew police attention to the ship. Lebanon has proved a popular illicit landing spot for fraudulent cargoes since the country's internal troubles made it impossible for international police forces to maintain any influence as outside investigators. Inquiries from Interpol on routine matters have gone unheeded for 18 months.

Saudi Arabian interests were among the worst hit, paying in advance for cargoes to be brought through the Mediterranean and the Suez Canal, only to find the ship had made an unauthorized port call in Lebanon, discharged, and disappeared to reemerge some months later under a new name.

The 5,668 gross tonnage Betty took just such a course, and in doing so attracted the interest of police intelligence. In early August of this year, the ship was registered in Limassol, Cyprus, and owned by the Greek Pero Shipping Company. She had loaded 3,500 tons of reinforcing steel in Chioggia, Italy, and 5,000 cubic metres of timber in Rijeka, Yugoslavia, valued in total at $3m.

The vessel was chartered to take the cargo to buyers in Jeddah, but on August 18, made an unscheduled stop at the port of Pylos in south west Greece, ostensibly to take on supplies. The unscheduled port of call and the ship's eventual destination of Jeddah were enough to alert shipping intelligence contacts.

In late August, members of the International Association of Airports and Seaport Police, which liaises between marine police of different countries, had decided the voyage was suspect, but felt that they did not have enough information to persuade local Greek police to mount an investigation.

It was later discovered that while in Pylos, the Betty was sold to a paper company in Cyprus allegedly set up by one of the defendants in the case.

The Betty sailed from Pylos on August 30 and disappeared. Police believe the crew knew that the ship was under police suspicion. On September 12, the IAASP discovered that the Betty was unloading at a quay near Jounieh, 12 miles north of Beirut.

Most of the cargo was in the hands of right-wing Christian Phalangist militia in Jounieh, who were themselves on the point of being defrauded. They believed that they were paying $1.7m for a 10,500 ton cargo worth $9m on the Lebanon market. In fact, it totalled 8,500 tons.

Intense diplomatic activity involving the Saudis ensued, which resulted in the recovery of the cargo and the imposition of the blacklist.

The Betty, however, sailed from Jounieh, now bearing a new name, Five Star. Last month she turned up in Piraeus under the name of Aris, flying the Spanish flag. She was duly arrested.

The chief defendant in the case is Anargyros Samonas, aged 39, a shipowner, who is charged with embezzlement to a criminal degree, forgery, and the use of forged documents.

Mr Savvas and Iiannis Markoulakos a fellow lawyer, aged 36, were charged as accomplices to these alleged offences. All three were arrested on October 16 and remanded in custody at Korydallos prison. The date of the trial has not yet been fixed.

Mr Savvas was director-general of the port of Piraeus during the time of the military junta but is not thought to have any strong political convictions. All three defendants, however, are being represented by a lawyer who made a reputation by defending the leaders of the junta when they were tried.

A fourth man was remanded in custody charged with embezzlement on November 6. He was Petros Rossis, the Piraeus agent of Greek Pero, who had been abroad and was arrested on his return.

The case has already had repercussions beyond the Saudi Arabian blacklist. The Greek Ministry of Merchant Marine is drafting a law increasing penalties for cases of piracy or embezzlement of cargoes. It will make unauthorized port calls an offence punishable by at least two years imprisonment. The ministry also plans to blacklist shippers and shipowners engaging in such activities.

On a larger scale, the Betty affair will serve to add to the weight of pressure for the formation of a specialist international police task force, financed to some extent by the shipping industry, which will fly to the scene of suspicious shipping movements. Such a force would provide specialist support for local police, who seldom possess the expertise or international contact network to deal with complex maritime frauds.

The practical problems of forming such a group are being discussed by the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers and an announcement is expected shortly.

The Betty will provide a formidable argument for its formation: IAASP members are convinced that, had such a force existed, the ship would have been arrested before it had even left Pylos and embarked upon its fateful journey to Lebanon.

Chancellor sees little room for tax cuts in his next budget

A clear warning that there will be little room for income tax cuts in the spring budget came from Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, yesterday.

Speaking at a conference of businessmen in London, he painted a gloomy picture of the economy, which he said underlined the need for patience in the quest for a lower net tax burden.

"Even that important task cannot, and will not, be allowed to blunt our determination to keep borrowing down and the money supply under control," the Chancellor said.

A rise in the income tax thresholds is a possibility for the Budget, however Sir Geoffrey said this would be the best way of widening the gap between those at work and those drawing social security, thus exorcising the so-called "Why work syndrome", although it too is expensive in revenue terms.

Further cuts next year in the basic rate of tax, at present 30p in the pound, now seem extremely unlikely. Sir Geoffrey reminded his audience that it was very expensive to cut the standard rate. A penny off the rate costs the Government about £500m.

The Government is determined to stick to its policy of slowing money growth, and reducing its borrowing, even if this means that it cannot cut income tax significantly in the near future.

The present crisis of confidence in the City centres on fears of excessive money growth. The Government believes that the battle against inflation, through restricting the growth of money in the economy, comes before its other objectives.

Sir Geoffrey did suggest, however, that he may cut capital taxes in his next budget. He referred to a commitment in the Tory manifesto to "propose a simpler and less oppressive sstem of capital taxation" than the present capital transfer and capital gains taxes and he hoped to put forward proposals to deal with this in the spring.

This drew a sharp rejoinder from Mr Denis Healey, the shadow Chancellor, who commented: "It is particularly shocking that in the same speech as he abandons all prospect of cutting income tax, he should plan to cut taxes on wealth in his next budget."

The Government has obviously become more pessimistic about Britain's economic prospects in recent weeks.

The Chancellor said that with each day that passed, he realized more clearly "the appalling constraint imposed upon the British economy by a combination of low growth and in-built public expenditure".

The Treasury's latest forecasts for the economy are to be published next Tuesday. They are believed to show a fall in output and a rise in unemployment next year, with only a slight improvement in the rate of inflation.

The main reason for the downturn is a drop in business spending, as private industry is expected to run down its stocks and cut investment plans as consumer spending flattens out.

The Government also expects companies to face cash flow problems, although it believes these will not be as severe as those of 1974-75.

The economy will be hit by the conflict between the Government's relatively tight money policies and still rapid wage inflation.

A confused picture of the current economic situation emerged from the latest set of economic indicators published by the Government yesterday.

These showed that industrial production in September fell by about 1½ per cent from its August level, leaving output in the third quarter as a whole 2.7 per cent lower than the second quarter of this year.

But sales in the High Street rose in October as consumers spent some of their tax rebates. The index of the volume of retail sales went up by 1½ points to 111½ after seasonal factors have been allowed for.

The Chancellor signalled to the property industry that the development land tax is here to stay, with no change envisaged in the rate or starting point for the tax.

Some special relief for small businesses may be included in the April budget, as may relief for companies hit by inflation.

The government is committed to simplify the tax system by abolishing some special exemptions. But it is unlikely to do anything next year.

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Shell prices up before Christmas

By Nicholas Hirst

Shell UK, joint market leader with Esso in petrol and petroleum products, is planning an acrosss-the-board price increase to recoup rises in its crude oil and other costs.

The size and timing of the increases are still being worked out, but are expected to take place before the next meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries in Caracas on December 17. If, as seems certain, crude prices are raised again at that meeting, Shell will impose another round of increases on its customers in the New Year.

Other companies have no immediate plans for an increase. Esso and British Petroleum both said that they were considering the implications of recent crude costs but had made no decisions.

Shell, on the other hand, is actively working out the details. It has been particularly hard hit by the recent leapfrogging of oil costs. Kuwait, which supplies 40 per cent of Shell UK's 400,000 barrels a day requirement raised its prices recently by 11 per cent to $21.43 a barrel to restore differentials with other Opec producers. Most of the balance of Shell's needs comes from the North Sea. Of this, 30 per cent is Shell's own equity crude, the rest is bought in. The British National Oil Corporation, the largest North Sea crude seller, raised its prices to $26.27 a barrel from November 1.

Esso, which has similar requirements, receives 45 per cent of its supplies from the North Sea and 45 per cent from Saudi Arabia, which is still selling its crude to the Aramco partners, of which Esso's parent group, Exxon, is a member, at $18 a barrel.

Shell has been buying the occasional cargo on the spot markets where prices currently are topping $40 a barrel—although it has not paid such prices. With restrictions on its output from the Brent field imposed by the Department of Energy to reduce the amount of gas flared, its need to buy in additional supplies may be greater than originally planned.

The companies are also suffering strong pressures on cash flow. Credit terms for Opec sales have come down from 120 days a year ago to 30 days and cargoes are being paid for before they are received. BNOC is selling some of its oil in advance to raise £500m for the Government, bringing an equal loss of liquidity for the oil majors.

'No reprimand' on EMI shares, Hambros claims

By Alison Mitchell

Hambros Bank, the merchant bank advising Thorn Electrical Industries in its bid for EMI, was summoned to see the Takeover Panel yesterday.

There has been criticism in the City of the bank's attempt to place the underwriting of £100 million of Thorn shares. However, Mr Christopher Sporborg, the Hambros director in charge of the bid, said that the Panel was "totally satisfied with what is happening".

"As far as we are concerned everything we did was absolutely correct." He added there was no question of any reprimand.

Last week Hambros attempted to arrange the underwriting before generally releasing the terms of Thorn's increased offer for EMI. This created considerable confusion in the stock market and anger among some shareholders.

Although no inquiry has been started, Mr Charles Eglington, joint chairman of the Quotations Committee, admits that the "whole question is under review" by the Stock Exchange.

BP share offer only 1½ times oversubscribed

By Peter Wainwright

The British Petroleum offer designed to spread share owning among small investors, has barely succeeded. The offer of 80 million ordinary 25p shares at 363p each (150p payable on application and the rest on February 6) was just one and half times overscribed and it attracted only £180m of subscription money. Interest in the shares ebbed almost immediately after the start of business, but at the close the new shares stood at 154p. They began life at 156p and at one time were only 151p.

The stock jobbers tried to make the marketing a festive occasion by turning up in white boiler suits, edorned with the BP green and gold emblem, instead of their usual dark pin-stripe suits. But they had little to do except stand around.

All those who subscribed for 1,100 shares or fewer will get all the shares for which they asked.

Applications for more than 1,100 shares and up to 2,400 got 1,115 shares, while subscribers for more than 2,400 shares received 45 per cent of the number. These allocations fulfill the Government's pledge to favour small investors.

In keeping with plans to encourage employees of BP itself to buy shares in the group 2,167,543 shares—all of those for which employees submitted an application—were alloted. That, combined with 1,967,513 shares alloted to the trustees of BP, comprised 5.17 per cent of the shares offered.

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Krugerrand sales drive in UK

"We are going to set about the Englishman", said Mr D. A. Etheredge, president of the Chamber of Mines of South Africa, as he described a new campaign in Britain to "publicize the advantages of gold".

The campaign centres on marketing the one-ounce gold Krugerrand coin minted at the Rand Refinery near Johannesburg. Mr Etheredge, also chairman of the gold and uranium division of the Anglo-American Corporation, said that about £270,000 will be spent between now and Christmas to advertise the Krugerrand in Britain.

Controls on United Kingdom purchases of gold have been lifted this year and the Chamber of Mines of South Africa sees a formidable market here, with Krugerrand sales aimed, say Chamber officials, "at the man in the street".

But, like most other products, gold needs marketing and, as Mr Etheredge noted in an interview, "the United Kingdom needs just as much of an education as the United States did".

The Krugerrand sellnig operations are sophisticated and directed by Intergold, the marketing arm of the Chamber of Mines, which has an annual global budget of about £15 million. Boosting coin demand to small investors, runs Intergold logic, will broaden the international demand for gold and so inevitably increase prices.

Intergold executives claim that about 2.5 million Americans have bought Krugerrands in the four years since laws preventing gold ownership were lifted in the United States. Kruggerand sales worldwide rose from 90 tons in 1977 to 190 tons or 6.1 million ounces in 1978.

The urgency of the new British campaign stems, in part, from relatively disappointing Krugerand sales so far this year. As gold prices soared, many coin holders in the United States in particular, started taking their profits—world Krugerrand sales so far this year total 3.8 million ounces.

Mr R. S. Lawrence, vice-president of the Chamber of Mines and deputy head of Rand Mines, says the recent American sales show that a vibrant two-way market for the Krugerrand exists and this should enhance long-term interest. It remains to be seen if a similarly forceful trading market will develop in Brtiain.

In addition to Britain, the Chamber of Mines is now striving to raise Krugerrand sales in the Far East—another unexploited market. But at the current high gold price (it closed yesterday at £186.40) even buying a one-ounce Krugerrand may involve too large a cash outlay for the man in the street at whom Mr Lawrence is aiming.

It is thus hardly surprising that Intergold is now considering sales of a two rand coin, weighing one quarter of an ounce and another coin, the one rand, weighing one-eighth. The Krugerrand, says Intergold, is available at banks at a premium of about 5 to 8 per cent over the market bullion price.

Gold prices have soared this year, but South Africans do not care to recall that during 1975 and the first eight months of 1976 the price fell by almost 50 per cent.

Frank Vogl

Nexos recruits British staff for US

British systems programmers and analysts are being recruited to work on an advanced American communications computer being developed jointly by a subsidiary of the National Enterprise Board and an affiliate of Exxon Enterprises (itself a subsidiary of Exxon Corporation, the oil company).

Up to 20 programmers and analysts are being recruited by Nexos Office Systems, the office automation subsidiary of the NEB, to work as part of the design team at Delphi, Corporation, the Exxon affiliate, in Los Angeles.

Their task is to write software for the Delta 2 computer, which uses a number of processors to control and integrate large volumes of business communication—voice, pictures, text and computer data.

In Los Angeles, the Nexos staff will receive "a competitive Californian salary" by Delphi, with Nexos paying travelling and relocation expenses. After about a year they will be expected to return to perma*nent positions* with Nexos—presumably at competitive Avon salaries since the company's headquarters are being set up in Bristol.

Mr Muir Moffat, managing director of Nexos, *said yesterday that the joint deal would* benefit both companies: Delphi would be able to strengthen its design team, after which Nexos would gain experts with close knowledge of the Delta 2 computer. Mr Moffat sees the Delta as a key element in his company's strategy — a central machine which will be used to integrate a variety of com*munications* devices into a comprehensive office system.

Technology news

Nexos has rights to manufacture the Delta 2 system in the United Kingdom and to market it for office automation throughout Europe. The NEB subsidiary's other interests include Logica VTS (word-processing), Muirhead (facsimile transmission) and Ultronic Data Systems (word-processing).

A new type of inplantable heart pacemaker which can be programmed to match a *patient's indiv*idual needs more completely than was previously possible is being developed at Cranfield Institute of Technology, with support from the National Research Development Corporation.

Invented by Mr Richard Backhouse, a research officer at the fluid engineering unit at Cranfield, the "Algorithmia" pacemaker uses a special-purpose microprocessor in place of the hard-wired circuits used in conventional designs.

Mr Backhouse said yesterday that the main advantage of his design was that, for the same size and longevity as a conventional unit, more sophisticated functions could be provided. The microprocessor consumes very little power.

The Cranfield approach should lead to a number of advantages, with no increase in overall size. The characteristics of different types of pacemaker could be reproduced in a single standard unit, for example, by reprogramming the microprocessor. More selective "demand-pacing" applications (where the heart does not need to be stimulated continually) would be possible.

In the prototype development now under way at Cranfield, one application is the "atrial-triggered" synchronous pace*maker*, based on *complex* measurements of the heart which determine the appropriate type of pacing.

This will involve the automatic recognition of fine detail *in the complex voltage waveform of the heart*; this detail will be detected by an electrode placed within the heart and connected as an input to the Algorithmia. This will control an output pulse which will stimulate the ventricle and so achieve the desired level of pacing.

Microcomputer systems will be on sale in large numbers *early next year from £300* to £10,000, after a decision by Currys, the electrical retailers, to move into the microsystems business.

A Currys *subsidiary is to be* set up next January to market micro-based computers and software packages for business, educational and domestic users. Initially the new company will use first-floor space in existing Currys shops as well as other specialist outlets.

Mr Derek Moon, computer consultant and a former managing director of GEC's domestic appliance division, will become managing director of the new company. According to Mr Moon, Currys will use the in-house expertise of its own data-processing department and will recruit more programmers so that a substantial software service can be offered

Kenneth Owen

OVERSEAS

Carter aide warning to Chrysler

Chrysler *Corporation* may lose proposed government aid unless it alters a newly negotiated labour contract, Mr Alfred Kahn, President Carter's adviser on inflation said yester*day*.

He told reporters the government would send Chrysler and the Auto Workers Union a formal notice declaring that their contract probably does not comply with the government's voluntary wage limits.

"I consider it outrageous that the company and the United Auto Workers Union have agreed on a contract that we believe almost certainly will breach our standards", Mr Kahn said.

US bank fears

Congressman Benjamin Rosenthal of New York plans to propose legislation in Washington later this week aimed at blocking major American bank takeovers by foreign institutions. The United States national bank regulatory agencies are likely to oppose this move. Congressman Rosenthal is clearly reacting to mounting *concern by mainly modest-sized* United States banks to the prospect of tough overseas banking competition on their doorsteps.

Steelworkers' claim

Improvements in pensions and cost of living protection were named yesterday by the United Steelworkers of America as primary objectives in next year's contract negotiations, which may provide the toughest bargaining the industry has seen for years. However, a statement by the union wage policy com*mittee urges negotiators to try* to narrow or eliminate competitive disadvantages to employers in an effort to preserve jobs.

Oil rig order

Rijn-Schelde-Verolme Machinefabrieken en Scheepswerven NV (RSV) said in Rotterdam yesterday its RSV Gusto Engineering unit has received a 100m guilder (almost £24m) order from a Liberia-based operating company of the Danish shipowner A. P. Moeller for a self-elevating drilling rig, designed for operation in severe North Sea conditions.

Japanese exports up

*Japan's October certified ex*ports rose 16.7 per cent from the year before to total $9,624m (about £4,962m) according to the Ministry of International Trade and Industry yesterday. The total was also up 5 per cent from September, which had a total of $9,164m.

Italian deficit

Figures issued by the Statistics Institute in Rome yesterday show a September trading deficit of 421,000m lire (about £241m). This brings Italy's deficit for the first nine months of 1979 to 1,570,000m lire compared with the same 1978 period of 274,000m lire.

Institute proposes abolition of 'status' tax concessions

By Patricia Tisdall

Proposals aimed at abolishing tax concessions on fringe benefits related to status will be submitted by the Institute of Directors to the Treasury within the next few weeks. The submissions are in response to the plan to increase tax on company cars issued by the Inland Revenue in August.

The initial timetable was for legislative amendments to be laid in Parliament this month for implementation in the next financial year. But objections *from trade unionists and em*ployers have won assurances that no action will be taken before the deadline for representation on taxation of benefits runs out at the end of December.

Mr Walter Goldsmith, director general, *outlined* the Institute of Directors' ideas for a comprehensive review of the *taxation of company perks at a* conference on tax reform in London yesterday.

Surprisingly in view of the prevalence of fringe benefits at boardroom level Mr Goldsmith welcomed the eventual abolition of those which are not either available to all employees or regarded as essential to company performance.

"The institute is *against* benefits in kind which exaggerate differences in status", he said. "It is more than willing to see them go."

Officials of the institute have had two meetings with Mr Peter Rees, Minister for the Treasury. Details of the institute's final submission are still being worked out, but the basis of it will be for benefits to be divided into three categories for tax purposes.

Those which are "tools of the trade" and those which are part of an overall remunera*tion package should be exempt* from tax. Other less justifiable, status-related perks should be taxed at their full value.

The Institute has identified 92 separate items used by companies as non-cash benefits. These range from pension schemes, subsidized canteens and staff discounts on company products through to recent addi*tions such as lounge suits for* executives.

Apart from pensions, which a recent British Institute of Management survey shows were offered by 98 per cent of companies, the company car is the most prevalent perk.

Nevertheless the institute broadly agrees with the Inland Revenue's proposals that a true, *rather than a notional, value of* cars should be used for tax assessment purposes and that allowances should be linked to business milage.

Textiles chief accuses Government of breaking pledge on imports from US

The textile industry yesterday accused the Government and the EEC of failing to *honour a promise to prevent* imports of cheap American fibres from swamping the home market.

The American invasion of the United Kingdom market for man-made fibres and products had reached an intolerable level, Mr Leonard Regan, president of the British Textile Confederation said.

He was speaking on the eve of this afternoon's Commons debate on the deteriorating state of the industry, when the Government is likely to come under pressure to seek better protection for domestic producers from low-price imports.

For some time, the confederation has been concerned at the lack of vigilance shown by governments and the European Community in enforcing the package of controls introduced under the multi-fibre arrangement (MFA).

A more immediate worry is the disruption being caused by imports from the United States, where producers benefit from paying artificially low prices for energy and feedstock.

The growth in exports, fur*ther assisted by an undervalued* dollar, has enabled the United States to increase its share of Britain's polyester filament yarn market, for example, to 26 per cent against 7.5 per cent a year ago. It has been blamed for the loss of thousands of jobs in the textiles industry, where more than 30,000 jobs have already been shed in the *past three years*.

Last month, Imperial Chemical Industries announced further reductions in employment in its fibres division, which provides work for 10,200. In September, Courtaulds said it would be cutting 650 polyester filament manufacturing jobs in Northern Ireland. In both cases, cheap American imports *were cited*.

Mr Regan said yesterday that America was strangling the British industry. United States exporters of man-mades now enjoyed a price advantage of between 10 and 20 per cent, because of artificially low energy prices.

Last April, the European Community council of ministers agreed to take action *against American imports if* they threatened disruption of EEC markets.

The confederation, representing employers and unions, says that threat is now a reality, which because of the interdependence of the market undermines virtually every sector of the textiles industry.

Mr Regan said that talks with the American authorities had gone on long enough. Vague hopes of voluntary restraint action had to be abandoned. "We don't want sympathy. We want action. The pussy-footing in Brussels must stop".

The council of ministers will discuss possible action on November 20, when the confederation hopes the British Government will force it to act.

Before then, representatives of Comitextil, the federation of Community textile organizations, also hope to meet *Viscount Davignon, European* Commissioner for Industry, to press the case for action.

90,000 BL workers to get copies of 'ultimatum'

By Clifford Webb

British Leyland's Nuffield Press subsidiary yesterday began rushing out 90,000 copies of the management's 85-page "ultimatum" to the unions—one for each worker.

It demands full acceptance of *sweeping changes* in established working practices in return for a five per cent wage increase plus a self-financing incentive scheme which could provide another £15 a week.

The huge print job will take three days and it is being undertaken at the request of the unions. It is not a management attempt to bypass the official negotiating machinery.

But the demands are so controversial and detailed that one union official yesterday described them as "an attempt to introduce an employers' utopia".

The management says simply: "It is now a question of survival. We have run out of time for pussyfooting about. We must have a minimum 20 *per cent increase* in productivity from our factories."

British Leyland wants to sweep away all demarcation problems by introducing full mobility of labour in an industry where each worker and each union has zealously guarded clearly defined trade boundaries.

It goes even further by calling for new maintenance methods, including the elimination of trade demarcations and the amalgamation of related trades.

The intention is to introduce an *all-round* maintenance specialist similar to those employed in Continental factories. It is the prelude to the substitution of preventive maintenance for curative maintenance—a change which is said to be imperative in the new, highly automated Mini Metro shop at Longbridge.

BL is also demanding an end *to the time-honoured attitude to* overtime working—"one in, all in". It says the management must be trusted to allocate overtime on a fair basis.

It wants access at all times for its industrial engineers to set work standards and manning levels. But it also offers to train some shop stewards in basic industrial engineering techniques so that they will know what is going on.

The sweeping nature of the demands has surprised even those shop stewards who had been predicting further manage*ment assaults on wage negotia*tions, their traditional power base, after the recent seven-to-one vote by BL workers in favour of the latest recovery plan.

But they have hit back by insisting that BL should send a copy of the bulky document to every worker.

State curbs may lose British Shipbuilders orders worth $400m

By Peter Hill

Shipbuilding orders worth up to $400m (about £200m) may be lost to Britain because British Shipbuilders is unable to provide attractive financing terms.

High level discussions are taking place on a package of orders for about a dozen ships for the Hongkong-based World-*Wide (Shipping) group con*trolled by Sir Yue Kong Pao. New orders are desperately needed for the corporation's yards if British Shipbuilders is to secure the target level of 400,000 tonnes of new orders a year.

The corporation, now underpinned by government finance for the next two years, is engaged in a huge rationalization of its operations to cope with the continued slump in demand.

Sir Yue has had discussions with senior executives of the state corporation over the package of about a dozen ships, including coal and products carriers, which the group plans to build.

One of the most powerful *independent international ship*owners, he has traditionally placed the vast bulk of his new orders in Japan, but Japanese yards are busy with orders and owners are being forced to look elsewhere.

Sir Yue made clear his wish to build in Britain, as long as firm delivery dates can be given and that the financing *terms are competitive*.

British Shipbuilders is expected to make submissions to the group in the next few weeks, but senior executives are worried that, despite the subsidies available from the Government's £65m intervention fund, they will be unable to provide sufficiently attractive financing terms for World-Wide and for other owners now seeking orders.

The main problem concerns the provision of credit to both domestic and foreign owners.

Ministers have been made aware of the attractive soft credits which are being made available by other shipbuilding nations, but so far have indicated their reluctance to contravene international guidelines laid down by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Executives of British Shipbuilders have stressed that the United Kingdom shipping industry is much more unfavourably *placed in terms of credit facili*ties than most other EEC shipping nations.

Mr John Parker, British Shipbuilders' board member for shipbuilding said: "The United Kingdom has adhered to the OECD understanding on export credit for ships, but in situations where other countries have not, and do not, it is crucial that British Shipbuilders should have the opportunity to match such terms".

World-Wide has indicated that it wants the ships delivered over the next two years, but pros*pects for a deal will depend on* whether British Shipbuilders can offer a low price coupled with normal credit, or extended credit with low interest and a higher price.

Assistance through the intervention fund is now limited to 25 per cent of contract price in line with reductions in level of assistance being urged by the *EEC Commission*.

Faced with the reluctance of the Government to "bend" credit rules, the shipbuilding corporation is examining the possibility of developing new financial packages after the abolition of exchange controls last month.

The possibility of variations of the controversial Anglo-Polish shipbuilding deal is also being considered.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

VAT no longer an appropriate tax for the Community

From Mr Julian Lessey

Sir, Sir Derek Ezra rightly pointed out on November 6 that Britain and Europe in particular need to come to grips with an unprecedented situation — that major natural resources are running out. The return of *The Times* is therefore a suitable occasion to reconsider a major aspect of EEC fiscal policy.

The cornerstone *of the Com*munity's tax edifice is VAT. With the best will in the world, this tax cannot be considered a happy innovation. It is complex, time-consuming and expensive to administer, for government and taxpayer alike—not least as it entails the collection and refund of myriad separate sums among myriad separate individuals. *It presents a positive* temptation to evasion and a threat to fiscal morality. Indeed, if one had sat down and thought about it, one could hardly have devised a more cumbersome and unsatisfactory tax.

How then did it come into being? The answer, I suggest, lies in the period in which it germinated. The late fifties and sixties were a time of expansion in Europe, when employment was relatively high and materials (especially oil) cheap and apparently plentiful. In this *growth atmosphere the Com*munity's aim of a "general" tax on consumption with the emphasis on "neutrality" seemed entirely appropriate. In such a climate "distortions" to the market appeared to be the bogy and perfect neutrality the ideal. The broad aim was a tax broadcast without discrimination over the whole of commerce.

Since those times we have had more than one oil crisis, a substantial increase in the *scarcity and price not only of* energy but of many natural resources and a world recession. Energy saving is now general policy, not only in the Community but in its member states. Fiscal discrimination and "distortion", far from being anathema, are welcomed in support of this policy: which country today does not, for instance, tax petrol with special severity? Accompanying this we have had a dramatic change from low to high unemployment; once a relatively scarce resource, unskilled labour has now become embarrassingly plentiful.

In the very changed circumstances of the seventies, is VAT any longer appropriate? For one *thing*, exemptions *and* multiple rates have whittled away much of the point it ever had. But a substantial proportion of "value added" consists of work, so that VAT is in large degree a tax on work. In a period of increasing structural unemployment, to which there is no end in sight, what could be more idiotic than to tax labour? Yet the Commission continues to pile VAT directive on VAT directive, adding to an edifice that will sooner or later have to be demolished.

Their aim should rather be to *transfer* taxation from *the re*source we want to sell (labour) to the resource we want to save (energy/materials). The *British Government should* therefore urge the EEC to abandon its obsession with VAT and to take the first steps in replacing it as our main indirect tax with a raw materials tax.

Such a tax could be charged *ad valorem* on the extraction (in the Community) and importation (from outside it) of non-renewable resources including fossil fuels. It would provide a deterrent to waste and an incentive to energy saving, to the more efficient and economical use of materials and to reuse and recycling. It would thus help to promote resource conservation and slow down the rate of extraction of raw materials not only in the EEC but in third countries (on whose resources we will all ultimately depend).

It would also help to cut the import bill. Compared with VAT it would be simple to administer, as the number of points at which it would be levied (extractors and importers of materials) would be few.

Let us therefore get rid of the incubus of VAT before it becomes an institution and substitute a tax that serves a positive and recognizable purpose.

Yours faithfully,
J. M. LESSEY
Convener,
The Conservation Society Ltd
Economics Working Party,
29 *Pilgrims* Lane,
London NW3 1SX.

Checking telephone bills

From Dr D. Rudd

Sir, The Post Office sent my late mother a telephone bill for £109. At the age of 82 she would have been very distressed but her generation were taught to pay bills promptly. So it was fortunate that the bill came to me, who am *less complacent*.

I pointed out that the amount did not accord with the stated meter readings (a mystery to most people) and that correct arithmetic would lead to a refund of £214. This induced a telephone call, explaining that the PO had omitted to take account of the fact that they had changed *meters* on the 01-907 exchange during the period. We settled for a credit of £2.86.

Presumably up to 10,000 meters were changed, so the picture emerges of thousands of wrong *bills*, some of them outrageously so but others not wrong enough to lead even younger subscribers to query them. An appalling situation! The moral is never pay your bills until you have double-checked them and, if you have an aged relative, make sure *she* is not put upon—especially if she lives in the 01-907 telephone area.

The tale has not ended. The PO have now sent my mother a red reminder that she owes them £221. How they have conjured up that figure I cannot imagine, but presumbaly there will follow the usual series of *increasingly obnoxious letters*, culminating in a threat of litigation. So beware again fellow readers! Remember the Post Office is persistent. If you settle their first nonsense they will compose another for your annoyance. But we will overcome!

Yours, etc,
DAVID RUDD,
14 *Colcokes* Road,
Banstead,
Surrey.
November 12.

From Mr O. P. Sellars

Sir, May I congratulate you on resuming publication. At the same time I would propose that when the Post Office is divided into separate postal and telecommunications businesses the occasion might be marked by a change in colour of public call offices from red to yellow, as indeed were telecommunications *engineering vehicles after the* Post Office Corporation was established ten years ago.

Assuming that the new Post Office will retain its red mail vans and letter boxes after the split, it would be appropriate for call offices to match the colour of telephone engineers' vehicles, not only to mark the occasion but also from environmental considerations.

Yellow phone boxes would certainly look better than red in country places, especially in villages. In Japan, where *public coin boxes come in four* colours including yellow and red, the yellow boxes are probably the most conspicuous, so it would be difficult to argue, as the Post Office has done in the past, that red must be retained to catch the eye. Is not a field of mustard as bright as one of poppies?

Yours faithfully,
O. P. SELLARS,
Dolyhir,
London Road,
Bracknell,
Berkshire.

A depressing truncation

From Mr Harry Hopkins

Sir, Now that British Leyland is not to commit hara-kiri, could we not be spared its plainly suicidal truncation "BL". The pervasive and intensely depressing presence in the headlines of these two mean and vacuous *initials, purporting to represent* a major national enterprise, must surely cast grave and continuing doubt on the judgment of those appointed to lead British Leyland out of the wilderness (who presumably approved, or worse, instigated the change).

ICI, GEC, BP, EMI, while not adding to gaiety of nations, are reasonably euphonious, BR may still be spelled out, and GKN has a positively nutty sound. But the — apparently mandatory—BL is not so much a lame, as a one-legged, duck. Could you not, sir, mark your *return by putting it, and your* readers, out of their misery and simply reverting to the admirable un-Japanese solidity of British Leyland.

Yours sincerely,
HARRY HOPKINS,
61 Clifton Hill,
St John's Wood,
London NW8 0JN.

Benefits of industrial newspapers

From Sir Frank Price

Sir, It is encouraging to read that the leaders of the CBI are concentrating their attention on the need for "communications". Indeed, it is not before time. The British Association of Industrial Editors has for a long time been *stressing to* all *sides* of industry that industrial newspapers, if properly utilized, provide a platform for the managing director *and* the lady who makes the tea, the salesman who depends on the production line worker for quality and delivery, and the shopfloor who, in turn, rely upon the ability of the salesman to sell.

The glaring need for all to realize that they are interdependent, that they are a team is, it seems, more obvious to the observer than those who are more directly involved. A well-designed newspaper with a balanced (and I mean balanced) content, and a competent, responsible editor, given the freedom to run his or her paper, will make its contribution to providing the communications link for which all sides crave.

Too many times one hears *management complaining of* the lack of understanding of their problems by the shopfloor, but their cries are drowned by the workforce who say that the upper echelon management is out of touch. Middle management, who carry the heat and burden of the day and who also have a view and also have need to express it, *are in need of a "bridge of* communication".

Many of our industries which have a successful record in the industrial relations field, have first-class "free" internal newspapers. The British Association of Industrial Editors, for its part, works hard to nurture the best traditions in this most important field.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK PRICE,
President,
British Association of Industrial Editors,
New Oxford House,
16 Waterloo Street,
Birmingham, B2 5UG.
November 12.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Every cloud has a silver lining . . .

What a time to come back! It now looks inevitable that the next few days are going to see the cost of money rise to record levels, at least in nominal terms. The Bank of England's minimum lending rate seems set to be raised above its 1976 peak of 15 per cent—anywhere between 15½ and 16½ per cent looks possible—and the clearing banks' base rates will rise commensurately.

Yet every cloud has a silver lining. In this case that silver lining could be that the end is now in sight of this autumn's bear run in the gilt-edged market.

I say that with some trepidation: the current pay round is young; the upward trend in the rate of price inflation still has some months to run; private sector credit demand remains uncomfortably high; the Government has yet to prime fiscal and monetary expectations for the next financial year; and it is still no more than speculation that the recent upward spiral in international interest rates is now in its final stages.

It is difficult to believe that we are not now near a point at which the institutions will be prepared to feed in a big way, provided of course, that they are served with an appetising dish. That does not mean to say that there is a land of milk and honey just over the horizon: the Government has no shortage of debt to sell and is going to have to pay up in order to persuade the new breed of "international" United Kingdom investors to play the game.

But, for all that, it does seem that the initial crisis of confidence under the Government could be close to resolution.

This does not, however, make it any easier to take a sanguine view of the equity market, except perhaps, over the shorter term. The market's recent attempts to rally have, it is true, been far from reassuring. Even so, a technical correction in equities should be close at hand, particularly as the institutions get the sniff of prospective double figure yields on blue chips such as ICI.

● *The Government can afford to be pleased with the outcome of the BP sale, but in the context of other major sales of State assets on the agenda it cannot be complacent. Selling stock in a major international oil company even during a week when markets are in turmoil over the prospect of even higher interest rates will be seen as kid's stuff when it comes to selling some of the rougher propositions in the Government's locker.*

This point though is recognized by Whitehall which is drawing on all the inventive capacity of the City in promoting an open and fierce competition among banks and leading brokers for the business of handling various state sales.

At the end of the day BP may be seen as the sop—after all, undewriting commissions cannot come much easier than this and it is unlikely that they will come as easy again as other sales proceed into even stickier market conditions.

EMI bid

Explanations from Thorn

With the chances of another suitor for EMI showing its hand getting slimmer by the day, EMI's shares started to reflect this yesterday, slipping to 137p, which is almost a tenth below the value of Thorn's underwritten offer.

Even the 5 per cent stake built up last week, as all the EMI shares in the market found a ready buyer, now appears to be a red herring; any rival to Thorn is likely to use this as a bargaining counter should Thorn decide to sell off parts of EMI's business rather than the springboard for a full-scale bid.

Twentieth Century Fox, last week's number one candidate for a rival bid, may well have decided to use this as a tactic to get hold of EMI's music side which it is apparently more interested in than the film business.

Various options have been considered including the possibility of setting up a consortia to share out EMI's assets.

But the higher terms from Thorn appear to have clinched things. Not only are they pitched at a level which would make any other offer appear unduly generous given the uncertain recovery prospects in EMI's major businesses but the agreement of the EMI board to the terms makes it doubly difficult for any rival to enter the fray.

Meanwhile, the need to move quickly last week to pre-empt any possible counter-bid has led Thorn's financial advisers, Hambros, into hot water with the Takeover Panel over the way the underwriting was handled.

But Thorn is leaving nothing to chance with the investing institutions. It is trying to bring them gently round to the industrial logic of the takeover, so barring accidents the deal now looks to be on the home straight and shareholders should not be tempted to sell into this weak stock market.

● *Rothschild Investment Trust produced just two figures yesterday, a month ahead of its full interim announcement; but both of them contained surprises. In the first place the interim dividend has been bumped up by a full 20 per cent, in a move which confounds market expectations that the rise in dividends would have to be restricted because of last month's £8.7m purchase of low-yielding shares in Savoy Hotel.*

In the second, net asset value at end-October was set at 365p (359p fully diluted)

This is no accident. The decision to bump the dividend up by 20 per cent reflects the director's recognition of the importance of yield, and a policy of increasing it even though the dividend cover might decline

As for net asset value, RIT has benefited from the policy—peculiar to itself—of holding sizable stakes in unquoted companies (which are not revalued at the interim stage). Liquidation of a fair (though unquantified) slice of the Hume assets will not have done any harm in the subsequent period, either. From the looks of things, RIT's shares are now selling on a discount to net assets of around 35 per cent, well above the average for the sector; and the prospective yield, on a similar increase in the final dividend, is over 6.5 per cent.

Insurers

An American experience

Third-quarter results are due this week from the three United States-oriented insurance majors—Commercial Union, Royal and General Accident. It is a prospect that is worrying the stock market.

Opinion is deeply divided as to the sort of United States underwriting experience insurers will face in 1980 and beyond and its effect overall on results and ratings. A sanguine view is that shares are already fully discounting the heavy bloodletting that can be expected in the United States next year, while the potential for strong gains in investment income and sound dividend yields in the 9-11 per cent range provide solid grounds for holding in anticipation of a strong recovery in 1981.

Given hurricanes David and Frederic, United States catastrophe losses so far this year are thought to have reached a record $1,500m.

One effect of the United States disasters has been to increase optimism about prospects for recovery next year. However, more pessimistic observers feel that current year catastrophe losses are merely fudging the issue with regard to the underlying deterioration in most classes of business. Certainly, in 1974, the last year of major catastrophe losses, both the industry and the stock market made the mistake of misjudging the underlying deterioration in rates and claims incidence.

So the unprecedented rise in United States interest rates and consequent increase in competition particularly in property and liability lines could mean that the United States downturn is only just beginning.

Next year CU, Royal and GA could see underwriting deficits of over £50m, over £25m and over £30m respectively compared with surplusses of £3m, £25m and £1m last year.

This could mean profits at CU continuing to slide after falling perhaps £12m to £130m this year with prospects flat for Royal after a drop of perhaps £30m to £123m this year.

Hugh Stephenson

Not quite a U-turn – more a swerve

It is beginning to look as if the decision to abolish all exchange controls overnight was Sir Geoffrey Howe's first major unforced error as Chancellor. It may also betoken the first swerve of policy (it would be unkind at this early stage to call it a J-turn), namely over the exchange rate.

Until now the ingredients of exchange rate policy seem to have been as follows: domestic monetary considerations must take precedence over the exchange rate; the Bank of England must not persistently sell sterling to hold down the rate, if that inflates the domestic money supply. If the result of the above has been that the pound has been strong and rising, then that is at worst an acceptable consequence and at best probably a good thing.

But now a principal defence of the exchange controls decision is that it has and will generate capital outflows, thus pushing the rate down to levels at which British industry can afford to do business abroad. That seems to be an important swerve, though I will return in a moment to the question whether exchange controls are a sensible instrument for fine tuning the exchange rate.

The real character of the error was that it was a move of such total surprise, announced with such obvious lack of time spent preparing the ground. The result has been a substantial injection of uncertainty and instability into the whole structure of financial markets. The perverse result this week is that we shall almost certainly see both higher interest rates and lower exchange rates at the same time.

The issue is not whether exchange controls were a good thing or not. It is whether, given the Government's dislike of them, it was sensible to get rid of them all at a stroke. The Treasury and the Bank of England have for obvious reasons always been against overnight dismantling of all controls. It is a measure of this Government's determination that the traditional advice was not offered, or was overridden.

Certainly the administrative machine was caught unprepared. It was not just that total abolition undermines the present controls of the banking system and renders sterling M3 an inadequate measure of the domestic money supply (because banks can now take deposits abroad and lend them in this country). It was also that no one had answers to questions about how far the new regime would undermine capital transfer tax and the rest of capital taxation. These were just the surface signs that the thing had been done in a rush.

The more substantial point was that the many and various arguments put forward in the past by the Bank and the Treasury for a more steady step-by-step approach were ignored. First, they have always argued that it would be better to do a bit at a time, as the balance of payments improves, and not count the whole of North Sea oil before it has been brought ashore. For the next few years there are going to be substantial offsets to the North Sea credit account in the shape of debt servicing, other invisible transactions and the take-off by the foreign oil companies involved—leaving aside the servicing and repayment of the $20,000m plus of official debt incurred in the mid-1970s.

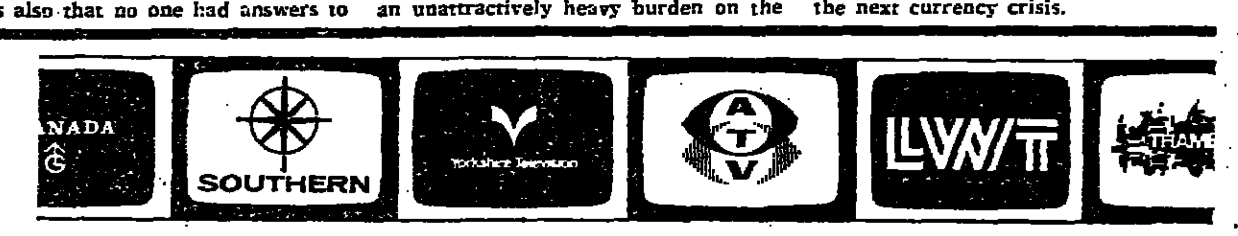
Secondly, if exchange controls are being eased would it not be better for priority to be given to financing overseas productive industry directed by British-based companies? The official view is that the financing from British funds of overseas portfolio investment is an unattractively heavy burden on the balance of payments in relation to the benefit to the British economy.

Thirdly, the consequences of such a dramatic move as total abolition of all controls overnight, being outside the range of experience, are quite unpredictable. If people thought that the move might have to be reversed, it could lead to a flight from sterling of unprecedented proportions. If people thought it was a sign of great confidence and strength, it could lead to a huge destabilizing inflow of unwanted funds.

Finally, the abolition of exchange controls has always been officially rejected as an instrument of exchange rate policy itself on the grounds that it is technically unsuited for the job. This is for the simple reason that the effect is only *permissive*. It allows something to happen, but cannot guarantee whether it will happen, when it will happen, or even in which direction it will happen.

Such reservations apply even more strongly to the total abolition of the control system, which is what has been done, than to progressive relaxations, which is what the authorities hoped would happen. As a result of this unilateral exchange control disarmament, the Bank of England will go naked into the next currency crisis.

The new channel planned by the IBA faces severe financial tests. David Hewson reports



Will the Fourth Channel make commercial sense ?

Britain's fourth television channel will start transmitting in the autumn of 1982 in an atmosphere of financial stringency.

That much was made clear when the Independent Broadcasting Authority's chairman, Lady Plowden, and her senior officers revealed their proposals for the future of the service yesterday.

At the moment, the authority's 41-paragraph statement on the Fourth Channel remains a provisional document. But given the pressure on the authority to meet its commitments over the next two years, yesterday's proposals are likely to prove the authorized version of the new channel's operating philosophy.

In the space of the next 12 months the IBA must make a series of decisions which will determine the shape of commercial television into the 1990s.

'Money is bound to be tight; programmes will not all be able to have the budgets that are sought for them; the profits received by the ITV companies will be diminished for the first year or two at least'

Next month it will advertize the new ITV franchises to be awarded during 1980 for operation from January 1982. In addition, much of the work on the establishment of the Fourth Channel company, which is expected to run the service under the overall control of the authority, will need to be completed.

The authority's financial estimates for the first year of the service make the channel look remarkably similar in cost terms to BBC 2, though its output, the IBA says, will be more diverse.

The channel's first annual budget would be in the order of £60m to £80m in 1979 terms, providing between 45 and 50 hours of programmes a week. BBC 2 has a budget of £60m, 17 per cent of the corporation's total budget, for which it provides 79 hours each week. When savings through repeats are removed from BBC 2 costings, the two channels would have comparable operating costs of around £24,000 an hour.

The channel would be funded by a levy on the new contractors to be paid from when they take over in January, 1982, but control of the channel output will remain with the new company which the IBA proposes to form for that purpose.

The levy will undoubtedly fall heaviest on the contractors who can most afford it. At the moment these would be the "Big Five" of Thames, London Weekend Television, ATV, Granada and Yorkshire, all of whom will have to fight to retain their franchises if, as expected, opposing bids materialize during the coming months.

The need for initial capital for the channel before its launch will be met by the IBA raising loans which will have to be repaid out of future revenue.

The IBA has been blunt about the effect of the Fourth Channel on the franchise operators during what are likely to be lean times for the industry even had it not elected to take on additional operating costs.

The sensitivity of commercial television to recession was amply shown in 1974 when almost 10 per cent was wiped off advertising revenues. The industry swiftly climbed out of the depths, with revenue, in 1979 prices, rising from £300m in 1975 to £410m in 1978. The increase is not certain to be maintained, says the IBA's statement, and "a cyclical decline seems at least as likely".

The broad consensus of the studies, commissioned by the IBA, forecast that the new channel will increase the combined advertising revenue of the two channels but not, during the formative years, by more than 10 per cent. Some predictions say the increase could well be less.

"It is a challenge to launch the channel in economic circumstances several shades less rosy than a year ago", Lady Plowden commented.

The new channel will not be solely dependent on the revenue it earns, but the two commercial channels together will depend wholly on their joint revenue.

The authority says that it is confident that there will be, in time, sufficient revenue to support two high quality services but adds, "we must be on our guard against overconfident planning. If there are any expectations that funds can from the start be freely and uncritically available, they are unlikely to be realized".

Lady Plowden, chairman of the IBA: the economic circumstances are less rosy than a year ago.

A little later the document adds: "Money is bound to be tight; programmes will not all be able to have the budgets that are sought for them; the profits received by the ITV companies (of which some five-sixths pass to the government in levy and tax) will be diminished for the first year or two at least."

The sentiments may well sound ominous to the many independent producers who hoped the new channel would provide them with an important new outlet for their work.

The fight by some sectors of the advertising industry for competitive advertising between the two channels is now positively lost. The IBA has sided with the Home Secretary in believing that such a move would inevitably result in attempts to maximize audiences, broadening the appeal of programmes, and isolating the BBC into a position of permanent minority broadcasting.

But there is a concession to the advertising world, the prospect of the formation of an IBA advertising liaison committee. The terms of reference of the committee are to be discussed, but the IBA hopes the new body will help resolve some of the disagreements which have appeared over advertising issues in the past. The question of pricing will not, however, come within the committee's ambit.

The IBA proposes that advertising for the Fourth Channel should be sold by the ITV companies in their own regions. But it will wish to discuss safeguards to prevent the imposition of arbitrary conditions on advertisers. It has been suggested that there should be no linked discounts between the two channels and that separate rate cards for the channels should be published.

The parlous state of the commercial television's industrial relations received no mention yesterday but is likely to prove important. The Fourth Channel may well be seen by employers as a godsend for those television workers about to be displaced by new technology who may now be retained working on the new channel. After this summer's bitter strike, however, such a move would more likely be seen by the unions as an attempt to run two channels with the staff of one.

The IBA's aim is for 60 per cent of Britain's television audience to be tuning in to one of the two commercial channels by the end of 1982.

The IBA is as aware as anyone that yesterday's proposals are only the first step on a long road to the formation of a new channel. Much more will be needed before commercial television can successfully lay the remark of the then director-general of the BBC, Sir Charles Curran, in 1974 who said of the plans for ITV 2: "All of this is admirable, but one is immediately driven to ask, can it work?"

Business Diary: Class of '80? • Cousin David

British Airways, I heard yesterday, is about to grasp the nettle of the rotten treatment that business travellers can get on European routes.

Proposals are to be put before chief executive Roy Watts this week which could mean that the many business people who do not fly first class no longer find themselves sitting next to holidaymakers who are enjoying the same level of service at half the price.

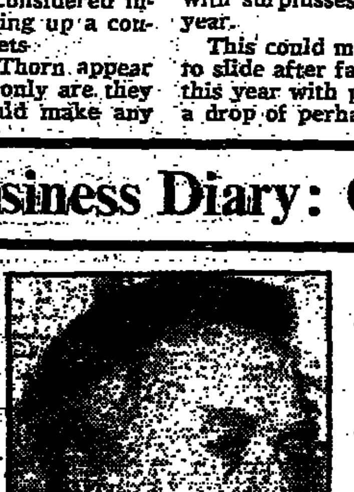
From what I hear, a working party set up by Watts and chaired by commercial director Gerry Draper will recommend that first class and business travellers should be accommodated together in a new and larger section of the plane, supplanting the old first class compartment; it would possibly be called the "business" or "club" class.

Aggrieved business travellers —and there are many these days—will pay no less than before. They will, however, have more room and enjoy a better standard of service.

First-class travellers would probably pay less but suffer no substantial inconvenience, save that of stubbing expensively-clad shins on black, metal-rimmed executive briefcases.

From Draper and Watts the proposals will go before chairman Ross Stainton and the board in time for a detailed announcement before Christmas.

Meanwhile, talks are going on between British Airways and other airlines to see whether they, too, are minded to scrap first-class travel. British Airways needs to know whether in pleasing its business travellers it might lose first-class passengers to other carriers.



Amex's Arthur Levitt Jr, in London yesterday.

The soft-gospeller of the American small investor is in town. Arthur Levitt, Jr, chairman of the American Stock Exchange (the other New York exchange) was at the Savoy yesterday extolling the virtues of the "mid-size" company and those who invest in them.

The stage is set, he thinks, for countering Uncle Sam's baleful influence over the economy. The United States is closer than at any time in its history to government allocation of financial resources, but Mr Levitt's troops are mobilized. January will see a conference in Washington DC of 2,100 businessmen from small and medium companies, organized by Amex, demanding more elbow room for investors.

Before becoming Amex's chairman at the beginning of last year Mr Levitt was president of Shearson, Haydon, Stone, the Wall Street securities and investment banking house. He is committed to pulling Amex out from the shadow of the New York Stock Exchange by widening its range of services and extending international links.

But it all starts with the small investors. He admires our own Mrs Thatcher: "The policies we see here are aimed at individuals. Rolling back United Kingdom taxes is a tremendous step forward."

■ There has been heavy betting in the art market on who would succeed Peter Wilson as chairman of Sotheby's ever since he celebrated his sixty-fifth birthday on March 8 last year. The art market boom of the past two decades is almost entirely Wilson's creation.

Now David Anthony Thomas Fane, 15th Earl of Westmorland, and Wilson's first cousin, is to step into the chairman's shoes. He had been one of those tipped.

Until April of this year there were three obvious runners—Westmorland, deputy chairman, Peregrine Pollen, the executive deputy chairman, and Graham Llewellyn, former head of the jewel department and another deputy chairman. In April, however, Westmorland become favourite when he was created the sole deputy chairman of the international group.

Wilson's is a hard act to follow, particularly in Westmorland's case, since Wilson is not leaving the firm. He retains his directorship of all the main companies that make up the Sotheby group, but will in future be concentrating on generating business (chatting up the owners of superb collections) rather than day-to-day management.

Wilson, chairman for 21 years, brought in Westmorland 14 years ago as administrative director. Since then, Westmorland's time has been divided between Sotheby's headquarters in Bond Street and Buckingham Palace; he was a Lord in Waiting to the Queen from 1955 to 1978 and last year succeeded the Duke of Beaufort as Master of the Horse.

■ An EEC-backed group of consumer lawyers has wiped some of the sunny smiles off the faces of the British holiday travel trade just as they are busy pushing out their new season's brochures. The lawyers, in a 20-page report submitted to the European Commission who subsidize their researches, argue that it is unreasonable for people to have to pay for their holidays in full before they take them.

The report points out that in all EEC countries "the well-established rule of law" is that the contract price is paid after a service has been delivered, not before: "Nobody asks the consumer to pay the hotel bill on arrival."

The lawyers say that the tour operators have been getting away with things which would never be tolerated in other service areas, such as unilaterally increasing the contract price and changing the time of departure, the destination and the category of accommodation

One remedy the lawyers suggest is that in future customers should pay only threequarters of the holiday price in advance, the remaining quarter being held in a special bank account until released with the customer's consent or after the adjudication of a complaints board.

The reaction of the Association of British Travel Agents was: "It is an idiotic suggestion, which would only shove the prices of holidays up. Frankly, we have not taken it very seriously, because it only shows that lawyers do not know how package holidays are put together."

None the less, I understand that a more detailed retort is likely

Publicly, the power generation industry has treated with scepticism Jane Fonda's anti-nuclear film The China Syndrome. *But I learn that the top brass of the Central Electricity Generating Board found time to watch a special screening of the film, in a 16mm version specially bought for the purpose.*

Reliable reports have it that the purpose of the screening was not simply to give board members a chance to enjoy 90 minutes of the gorgeous Ms Fonda, but to examine the enormous impact the film has had on the public. Initial verdict: the film attacks not the nuclear industry as such, but, surprise, surprise, its control by private enterprise.

What is less comforting, however, is that the CEGB's boffins praised the wealth and accuracy of the technical detail in the picture.

Ross Davies

Stock markets

Widespread falls, gloom deepens

So much for Friday's technical rally. It was borne away on a tide of misery. Gloom tends to feed on itself and the worry now is not that interest rates are rising, but that the authorities are losing their grip on economic and financial policy.

Many operators in gilt edged stocks have now all but persuaded themselves that a jump in minimum lending rate of two points to 16 per cent and the launching of new tap stocks at levels the market will momentarily accept will not be enough to steady the gilt edged market an dthe parallel one in shares.

Such people worry about the loopholes in corset controls on money supply, and the way the Government's borrowing requirement rises in times of recession because unemployment benefit goes up while tax receipts go down.

Rumours persisted that Costain would try to pick up Uniholdings' 30 per cent stake in Capital and Counties Property. Costain already has 9.3 per cent but says that it is not in discussions "at the moment". It continued on the acquisition trail yesterday with the purchase of Australian engineering and property concern, Pearson Bridge, for A$7.25m. Meanwhile Costain's other takeover interest, Whessoe, remained firm at 146p. Costain were 132p, down 4p.

The gilt edged market disappointed with the Government's failure to cut Government spending as indicated in its recently announced plans, and last Tuesday's banking figure indicated a strong expansion in money supply. Thursday's detailed figures are likely to confirm this finding.

Market operators are, then, waiting until Thursday for a big jump in MLR; big new tap stocks; and adequate measures to tighten credit now that the corset is riddled with loopholes. The other economic indicators coming this week are unlikely to give the authorities any comfort.

There was no way for gilt edged to go save downwards, and at the long end losses ranged up to ¾ and at the short end, to ¼. Leading the way were Treasury 15 per cent 1996 £¾ lower at £103¾ while in mediums Treasury 9 per cent 1994 finished £½ easier at £70¾. Among shorts Fund 5 per cent 82-84 dropped £⅛ to £78⅛.

To the worries about gilt edged, equitp dealers had to add anxieties about company profits (as indicated in the recent CBI industrial survey), and the worrying way the pound has started to climb again in recent days. This erodes still further industry's competitiveness in overseas markets. The danger is that with every increase in the oil price, the pound will be levere dup and involve many exporters in losses abroad.

The excitement in BP the issue failed to materialize and the rush on dealing petered out at around 9.30 am. Dealers described the whole exercise as being "a damp squib" with the BP old shares finishing much in line with the rest of a dull oil sector 9p down at 356p. The new partly paid finished the day 4p up at 154p after 156p.

Selling soon had the FT index down. At 10 am it was 3.7 off and an hour later it was as much as 8.3 lower. For a little while things actually got no worse but then they did. At 3 pm the index was 8.5 down at 412.4, the lowest since April 19, 1977.

Blue chips remained subdued. After a half-hearted effort at a rally early on they finally came to a grinding halt by mid-day. Glaxo led the way losing 7p to 393p while BAT's slipped 5p to 248p. Unilever with third quarter figures due tomorrow lost ground following a bearish report by market analysts. Most observers are pitching forecasts of pre-tax profits between £165m and £180m compared with £170m. As a result, the shares eased 2p to 458p. Elsewhere, Beechams were 4p lighter at 123p and ICI and Fisons lost 5p and 3p to 325p and 227p respectively.

On the bid front weekend comment clipped 3p from EMI at 137p and 6p from its suitor Thorn at 320p. News of the new offer by GEC, 3p easier at 316p, for Averys was not well received and the shares reacted by the same amount to 250p.

Costain Group's latest acquisition in Australia also failed to capture market sympathy and the shares retreated 4p to 132p. Other acquisition news to upset the market came from Foseco Minsep 5p off at 144p, Brent Chemicals 8p lower at 206p and Senior Engineering's $10m US deal which clipped 1p off the price at 19p.

Disappointing interim figures left King & Shaxon 2p easier at 58p and Western Motors 5p lower at 105p. But the market was certainly more pleased with interim reports from Seccombe Marshall and Campion and Norwest Host so the shares climbed 20p to 200p and 17p to 108p respectively.

News of Trafalgar Houses's £100m property deal with BP failed to enliven the shares mhich duly dipped 2½p to 51½p. Further reaction to recent figures from Wolsey Hughes sent the shares reeling 18p to 244p.

In Electricals early gains in Automated Security, following weekend comment, was soon erased and finished the day Electronic proved a bright spot on buying in a thin market, however, and the shares gained 9p to 145p. Electro-components and Decca both finished 5p off at 393p and 310p.

There is support for M. P. Kent, the housebuilder and property group ahead of the annual meeting at the end of the week. Profits in the year to June 30 rose 68 per cent to £1.85m but this year could see them reach £3m or so. Market capitalization is only about £7.5m. The shares are 74p.

Banks finished generally easier with Brown Shipley the only firm spot increasing 5p to 287p after becoming the first to raise its base rate 15½ per cent. But the big four clearing banks all suffered further setbacks with Lloyds dipping 5p to 283p and National Westminster. Midland slipped 5p to 323p while news of Barclays latest United States acquisition dulled the shares by 7p to 393p.

After a bright start oils finished weaker, following the poor reception given for BP. Shell finished 8p lower at 324p while Ultramar dipped 6p to 254p. Only Oil Exploration 20p firmer at 618p and Ultramar 18p stronger at 333p managed to reverse the market trend.

Gold shares looked slightly firmer with average gains of about 60 cents but in mines profit taking on speculation about Consolidated Gold Fields 8p from the shares to finish at 314p.

Equity turnover on November 9, mas £75.967m (12,118 terday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were, Shell, BP, BP New, ICI, National Westminster Bank, Burma, Ultramar and GEC.

Latest results

Company Int of Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Clydesdale Inv (F)	—(—)	2.2(2.1)	2.1(2.0)	1.4(1.3)	16/1	2.15(1.9)
Norwest Holst (I)	89.4(53.4)	2.4(2.17)	26.2(23.7)	1.9(1.59)	7/7	—(—)
Warner Hols (I)	5.0(4.6)	0.35(0.35)	—(—)	0.5(0.35)	4/2	—(—)
Western Mtr Hld (I)	17.2(14.3)	0.46(0.56)	18.18(20.93)	1.43(1.43)	2/1	—3.57
Young Cos Inv (I)	—(—)	0.29(0.22)	—(—)	2.0(1.6)	28/12	—(4.2)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net.

Bid sends Norwest shares leaping after shock loss

By Our Financial Staff

Shares in construction group Norwest-Holst jumped 17p to 108p yesterday on news that two directors who control 58 per cent of the equity are considering bidding for the remainder.

The bid approach from Mr R. Slater and Mr A. J. Lilley coincided with a shock announcement by the Norwest board of an attributable loss of £2m at the interim stage. Pre-tax profits of £2.4m in the six months to September 30 have been wiped out by the need to make emergency provisions of £4.4m on contracts being carried out by the Marshall-Andrew Group which Horwest-Holst acquired for an undisclosed sum last February.

Norwest's chairman, Mr S. E. Baucher, revealed yesterday that detailed investigations have shown up a number of contracts being carried out by Marshall-Andrew with "very adverse results" for which provision had not been made prior to the acquisition.

He said that the majority of the £4.4m extraordinary debit in Norwest's interim accounts comprises the "unaudited additional goodwill provision" found necessary to build up forward loss reserves at Marshall-Andrew.

Mr Baucher refused to comment on the actual contracts concerned nor on whether his group was involved in any action against former Marshall-Andrew management.

However, he added that the extraordinary debit represented the "worst possible" view of contract losses and that in accordance with Norwest's accounting policy no credit had been taken for claims or compensation which may become available as a result of "steps now being actively pursued".

A full takeover board has been on the cards for Norwest since Mr Lilley and Mr Slater took control of the majority of the equity via their private company, Dunham Mount Holdings, in 1977.

Speculation that such a move was imminent increased in September when Norwest's chief executive, Mr Ted Brian, quit the group after what was described as a dispute over policy. Last February Mr Brian acquired a 25 per cent stake in Dunham Mount, thus taking an indirect interest in 14.5 per cent of the Norwest equity.

Mr Baucher said yesterday: "Mr Lilley and Mr Slater have always let it be known that this was their ultimate intention. At the moment, though, they have only given notice of their desire to enter into discussions".

Since Mr Brian took over as chief executive at Norwest in 1975 the group has gone from strength to strength, turning losses of £3.9m into a pre-tax profit of £5.4m last year.

In fact the 10 per cent jump in pre-tax profits to £2.4m compares with a jump of almost 70 per cent in turnover largely representing the Marshall-Andrew acquisition.

The group has hoisted its interim dividend payment by a quarter to make 2.86p gross and the board states that it is confident of its ability to maintain progress subject to any further dramatic reductions in the construction industry workload.

Senior Engineering in £5m expansion move in US

by our Financial Staff

Senior Engineering, the Watford-based industrial products group has made £5m takeover to provide a springboard for further expansion in the United States.

The group has acquired the Boiler Tube Company of America from the privately-owned Lockhart Iron and Steel Co for a total *consideration of* $10.525m.

Boiler Tube is a stockist and manipulator of steel tubes and fabricator of welded panel spares for combustion chambers, superheaters and economisers for boilers. Its operations are based at McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania and at Lyman, South Carolina.

Of the cash total Senior is paying $8.95m represents the cost of the capital stock of Boiler Tube and the remaining £1.58m cancels intercompany debts to Lockhart.

In the year to September 30, Boiler Tube made net sales of $12.15m (£5.8m) and net income after taxes of $748,000 (£360,000).

At that date net tangible assets stood at $4.66m (before *deducting debt to Lockhart*).

At the last balance sheet date Senior and bank balances of just over £1m. The Boiler Tube deal has been financed by dollar borrowings.

Senior's managing director, Mr G. R. Deveson, said yesterday that Boiler Tube would fit well with the group's economiser business in the United States while complementing United Kingdom activities and expanding scope for the group's products in United States engineering markets.

Senior has been looking at takeover opportunities for some time. At the end of last year it paid £370,000 cash for Blackpool-based exhaust systems group David Worthington. Earlier this year it made an agreed share bid worth almost £1m for General Engineering Co (Radcliffe) but withdrew its offer after investigations into the company failed to satisfy the Senior Board. General Engineering has since called in a receiver.

Senior itself last month reported a drop in first-half pre-tax profits from £2.73m to £2.42m blaming severe industrial disruption at the beginning of the year.

New rules at Lloyd's in wake of the Sasse affair

By Richard Allen
Insurance correspondent

Details of new deposit regulations for syndicates operating in the Lloyd's insurance market are scheduled to go out to underwriters on Friday.

The new requirements have remained a closely-guarded secret since Lloyd's chairman, Mr. Ian Findlay, first referred to the planned changes in an address to members last week.

A Lloyd's spokesman said yesterday that the new regulations represent only "minimal changes" to existing rules. These broadly require underwriting members to deposit sums with the exchange amounting to one-tenth of their share of all premiums written by their particular syndicate.

However, in some quarters of the market the new rules are seen as a major step by the committee to tighten controls covering the all-important matter of the underlying financial security of Lloyd's names.

The move, which is likely to involve closer and more regular scrutiny of individual members' personal wealth have been spurred by one aspect of the complex and notorious Sasse affair. It has emerged that some of the 118 members of the suspended Sasse underwriting syndicate which faces claims of £20m cannot possibly meet individual bills which could amount to £200,000 at the end of the day.

A large part of the claims involved in the Sasse affair are currently being disputed by syndicate members who are alleging that fraud was involved in one particular line of business and that there were discrepancies in controls at Lloyd's covering the sundness of certain intermediaries.

However, if after a period of arbitration — which is yet to officially start — it is found that the Sasse syndicate is responsible for all the claims the relative financial weakness of a few of its members could be acutely embarrasing for the market. Although any shortfall would ultimately be met from the market's special reserve fund such a development would obviously impair the reputation of an insurance exchange founded on the personal wealth of its 18,000 members.

Meanwhile the working party headed by Sir Henry Fisher, which is looking into all aspects of the running of Lloyd's is understood to have moved on to a close study of the exchange's bye-laws with a view to recommending sweeping changes in disciplinary rules contained in market Acts dating back to 1871 and 1911. At the moment the Lloyd's committee is proceeding against several parties *including former Sasse head* Mr Frederick Sasse, under the 1871 Act which incorporates grounds for life expulsion from the market. Under the 1911 Act firms and members can be suspended for a period of two years.

Because the penalties under both acts are so severe the Lloyd's committee is obliged to take the utmost care that all parties involved in a breach of rules get a fair hearing with the result that procedures have appeared cumbersome and unwieldy during the recent spate of controversies in the market.

Hearings under the Acts involve a highly complex series of investigations involving the appointment of arbitrators by all parties concerned. In fact official moves on the Sasse affair are still being delayed partly because Mr Frederick Sasse has so far failed to appoint an arbitrator to act for him.

Citicorp raising $300m loan

Citicorp Overseas Finance Corporation guaranteed by Citicorp, $300m loan due in 1984, interest is calculated monthly at the average of the bid and offered rate for three-month Interbank Eurodollar deposits and is paid quarterly at par, by Credit Suisse-First Boston.

Industrial Bank of Japan Finance Company, NV, guaranteed by Industrial Bank of Japan, $50m, due 1987, semi-annual interest at 0.25 points above six-month Interbank Eurodollar offered rates, par, minimum interest 5.25 per cent, Morgan Stanley International and IBJ International.

Bergen Bank, $25m, due in 1989, quarterly interest at 0.25 points above three-month Interbank Eurodollar offered rates, minimum interest 6.0 per cent par, credit Suisse-First Boston, November 14.

Norges Kommunalbank, guaranteed by Norway, DM150m marks, due 1994, 8.5 per cent retirement in 10 equal installments starting 1984 to give 10.5 year average, life Westdeutsche Landesbank.

Euromarkets

FOREIGN ISSUES

Sweden, $100m, due 1984, and $100m, due in 1999, Solomon Brothers, week starting November 19. European Economic Community, $90m, due 1999, Morgan Stanley and Company.

Volvo raises 500m Luxembourg francs

AB Volvo, 500m Luxembourg Francs, due 1987, 9.75 per cent at par, Kredietbank SA Luxembourgeoise.

Mortgage bank of Denmark, guaranteed by Denmark, 25m European units of account (1 EUR equals 2.97579 DM), due November 22, 1991, 9.0 per cent at par, sinking fund starts 1982 to give 9.25-year average life, Kredietbank SA Luxembourgeoise, November 16.

The volume of scheduled Eurobond issues totals about the equivalent of $517m compared with $181m a week earlier.

Averys' fresh broadside at GEC's £98m bid

Averys the Birmingham-based weighing machine group which is the subject of an increased £98m bid from GEC, is making its profit and dividend forecast today and responding to the new bid, worth 265p a share compared with GEC's original price of 245p.

Acceptances for GEC's offer, originally made in September, now stand at 9.5 per cent after creeping up from 9.1 per cent.

The new offer is unlikely to satisfy Averys, which according to city analysts, is predicting full-year profits of £16.75m against 1978's £15.6m. Mr Richard Hale, chairman, will stress that the group would have made around £19m pre-tax, but for the effects of the summer engineering strike. The first half's £7.17m profit was also hit by the road haulage dispute and the increase in the strength of sterling.

There is less certainty that Averys will follow last year's pattern and raise the dividend substantially to fight off GEC's bid which was first mooted a year ago. But there are suggestions of a 20 per cent increase, making a total of 16p gross. In 1978 the total went from 8.8p to 12.8p gross.

Cope Allman outlook

In his annual report, Mr L. J. Manson, the chairman of Cope Allman International warns that in view of uncertainties arising from industrial relations, oil price rises and the likelihood of significant fluctuations in current currency alignments, it would be premature to make firm predictions on the current year's results. Given relative industrial peace this winter, however, Cope should extract the full benefit of investment made in new plant.

Bridgewater Inv TV expansion

Mr R. A. W. Rudd, the chairman of Bridgewater Investment Trust, reports that the company's projections for the television companies recently acquired is to reach a chain of about 6,600 subscribers by the end of next March. There are over 4,200 subscribers at present, providing net asset values of over £250,000, which would rise to £400,000 on the company reaching its objective. Since the company is no longer an investment trust, the board proposes to change its name to Ascot TV Rentals (Holdings).

Action on costs at Walker & Homer

In the annual report of Walker & Homer, Mr G. R. Walker, the chairman, reports that the board is acutely aware of the group's need to further reduce costs and a review has been made of the whole manufacturing operation. A plan of action has been drawn up, the first stage of which has started. There was no dividend for 1978-79, but the chairman says that shareholders can "rest assured" that dividends will be resumed as soon as circumstances allow. Walker makes upholstered furniture.

Clydesdale Investment makes scrip issue

Pre-tax revenue of Clydesdale Investment Co rose from £2.1m to £2.21m in the year to September 30. With earnings per share up from 2.0p to 2.15p, the total gross dividend is being lifted from 2.83p to 3.07p gross. A scrip issue is proposed on a one-for-two basis on the ordinary and "B" ordinary shares. If the issue is approved, the board will pay an interim on the bigger capital of 0.71p gross, against 0.66p (adjusted).

Brent Chemicals acquisition

Brent Chemicals International has paid £610,000 for Tri-Kem, which manufactures and markets chemicals for the metal finishing industries in Britain and Europe. The acquisition will be financed by £330,000 cash and 133,000 shares.

Tri-Kem's sales amounted to £1.3m *in the year ending July* 31 1979. Pre-tax profit was £88,000 during the period but would have amounted to £130,000 if "current remuneration arrangements had been in force", says Brent. Tri-Kem's net assets are valued at about £230,000.

Interbanca DM150 live bond issue

Medium-term credit bank Interbanca says it has launched a Dm150m lire 13 per cent five-year bond issue, priced to yield 14.1 per cent in line with a new ceiling on bond yields for new issues by medium-term banks recently set by the Bank of Italy.

Bonds will be redeemed by equal capital repayments on each bond, in four yearly stages starting from the end of the second year—Reuter.

RETAIL SALES

The following are the figures for the volume and value retail sales released by the Department of Industry.

	Sales by volume (Seasonally adjusted). 1971=100	Sales by value (not seasonally adjusted) % change on year earlier.
1978		
3rd qtr	110.7	+14
4th qtr	111.7	+14
1979		
1st qtr	110.3	+13
2nd qtr	116.7	+17
3rd qtr	110.1	+13
Aug	111.5	+13
Sept	110.0	+14
Oct	111½	+15p

r revised
p provisional

INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT

The following are the index numbers for industrial production in September seasonally adjusted, released by the Central Statistical Office yesterday (1975=100).

	Total Industries	Total manufacturing Industries
1978		
Sept	110.8	104.4
Oct	109.3	102.5
Nov	109.9	102.8
Dec	111.6	103.9
1979		
Jan	103.7	93.3
Feb	111.8	104.5
March	113.1	107.5
April	114.2	106.7
May	115.4	107.1
June	117.9	110.3
July	116.4	107.9
Aug	111.6	101.4
Sept	110.0	99.0
% rise in latest 3 months over previous 3 months	—2.7	—4.9

Options

The euphoria surrounding BP shares failed to have any effect on the traded option market yesterday. What attention there was was focused on the new shares.

The total amount of contracts reached 414 of which BP accounted for 128 while Consolidated Gold was next with 47.

The story was much the same in traditional options, although here deals are being completed in the new shares up until January 24. Turnover in both old and new shares was described as "disappointing" although calls, puts and doubles were arranged.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Takeover Panel to investigate St Piran

By Our Financial Staff

Another chapter in the troubled story of St Piran started yesterday when the Takeover Panel announced that it was conducting an investigation into the Cornish tin mining and property group.

The Panel is looking to see whether "a group of persons acting in concert has incurred an obligation under Rule 34 of the City Code to extend an offer to the remaining shareholders".

The identity of St Piran shareholders has been in question for some years and has been one of the main points of issue between the board of the company and a group of dissident shareholders.

A week ago shares in St Piran were suspended by the Stock Exchange because of the group's failure to supply details of its Australian interests as requested by the Stock Exchange. St Piran had been asked to issue a circular to shareholders explaining the relationship between the company and Mr Jim Raper, whose Hongkong-based company Gasco Investments controls a stake of just under 30 per cent in St Piran, and the company's interest in Australia, where there are plans to issue shares to St Piran.

Western Motor setback

Western Motor Holdings saw a sharp drop in profits during the first half because of the combined effects of last winter's poor weather and the road haulage dispute on its car-delivery division.

Pre-tax profits fell by 16 per cent to £467,000, while sales rose 20 per cent to £17.2m in the six months to June 30, 1979. Mr James Smyth, chairman, said that the division had suffered a further unexpected blow in the third quarter with the engineering strike and factory stoppages and that the group as a whole is unlikely to make a profit in the second half. Last year profits dropped from 1977's record of £691,000 to £240,000.

The third quarter has also been affected by the prolonged Vauxhall toolmakers' strike at Ellesmere Port, which is now in its fourteenth week. The group is currently responsible for the delivery of 55 per cent of all Vauxhall production.

Second-half results will also be adversely affected by the effect of summer holidays, pointed out the group, whose first half results are traditionally better.

But trading figures for the retail motor division were "much better" than those of the corresponding period last year, added Mr Smyth.

The BL Cars franchise, which provides the mainstay of the division's activities, performed "remarkably well". The group recently acquired, through its W. Mumford subsidiary, a Datsun franchise in Cheltenham for £188,000 cash and a new BL Cars franchise at Launceston, Cornwall, for £175,000, although these were not incorporated in the interim results.

The interim dividend has been maintained at 1.43p gross and the group said it hoped that it could recommend the same-again final dividend of 2.07p at the year end "depending on results".

Interest charges amounted to £289,000 compared with £204,000 for the same period last year, while depreciation rose from £277,000 to £461,000. Earnings per share dropped from 20.93p to 18.18p.

Property sales provided £240,000 credit last year.

AMEX wooing British investors

By Michael Prest

The American Stock Exchange has launched a campaign to attract British investment in its stocks, particularly energy companies, and to persuade UK companies to seek listings on the exchange.

Speaking at a seminar in London yesterday on Amex's energy stocks, Mr Arthur Levitt, Jr, the exchange's chairman, said: "1980 will be a vintage year for US business." Disincentives for small investors will be reduced, and the medium and small companies which make up the majority of Amex's 1,000 listings, will become even more attractive.

Amex has never tried to attract UK investment or listings before. Only three or four British companies are quoted on Amex, Mr Levitt said. But the exchange is talking to several City stockbrokers and institutions with the aim of convincing them of the merits of Amex and its companies.

Mr Levitt hopes that one firm with whom discussions are being held will run a "broker's club" at which companies and brokers will be brought together informally to discuss investment opportunities. Amex will have about 15 such clubs in the US next year, but a London one is not expected to start for at least six months.

Amex is keen that the merits of its energy and high technology stocks be promoted. Mr Levitt claims that these sectors are growing faster than any others in the US. He points out that the de-regulation of oil and natural gas prices in the US means substantially increased earnings for such companies.

"Amex has vastly outperformed other exchanges. The greatest growth takes place in our companies," he said.

Investors, said Mr Levitt, recognise that the US economy is "resilient and resourceful." But they want "new chip not blue chip" stocks. Now that the pendulum has swung away from government—with the attendent danger of it dominating company financing—Amex hopes to draw investors back into the market place.

Call for changes in tax law

Mr Douglas Morpeth, partner in Touche Ross & Co. and former president of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, said yesterday that changes ought to be made in the application of capital gains tax. He told a conference on tax reform that costs should be index-linked, so that only real gains were subject to tax.

Mr Morpeth suggested that, to mitigate the increased administrative costs of indexing gains, small gains should be exempted from the tax altogether. He suggested an exemption limit of £10,000—which he said was only the equivalent of £2,500 in 1965—on gains in any one year. He also advocated abolishing capital gains tax on gifts, which should properly be the subject of tax on the donee.

Mr Morpeth recognised that the resultant yield from capital gains tax would be very low.

Warners Holidays' results stand still

by Alison Mitchell

Britain's only independent holiday camp operator Warners Holidays reports bumper bookings for the current year, but little of this has shown through in first-half figures.

For, in the six months to July 31, 1979, pre-tax profits remained almost unchanged at £356,000, against a previous £354,000. Turnover, however, has increased a tenth from £4.6 million to £5 million, though most of this stems from the increased cost of holidays rather than stepped-up bookings.

As such, with 12 per cent more people holidaying at Warners this year, the entire increase ought to dramatically improve second-half figures and the group is likely to see full-year profits of around £1 million, against a previous £818,000.

Interest charges increased from £86,000 to £129,000 in the first six months as Warners drew on a bank facility — thought to amount to several million pounds — to improve and modernize the holiday camp accommodation. This work has been in progress for the past couple of years, but with most of it now done, marketing manager Mr Dudley Clarke-Jervoise reports that borrowings have reached their peak.

As yet, the group has not decided how to develop its excess land. Although it has several parcels of land on its holiday camp sites, all with planning permission, no start has been made to develop the acres, or sell it on to a builder. However, Mr. Clarke-Jervoise hints that it will probably be developed slowly but regularly by Warner.

The interim dividend has been increased by a third to 0.714p.

Ibstock's £5m 'rights' flops

A £5m rights issue launched by brickmaker, Ibstock Johnson, last month has flopped.

Shareholders have taken up only 44 per cent of the issue and with Ibstock's shares currently trading below the rights price of 65p the remaining shares are virtually certain to remain with the underwriters.

Ibstock's shares stood at 82p when the two-for-five issue was announced to help finance the £10m acquisition in July of American brick group, Glen-Gery.

A spokesman for Ibstock described the issue's failure as a casualty of current market conditions, although the rights call was not helped by the forecast of a 10 per cent profits fall to £4.5m pre-tax in the current year. The company blamed the expected setback on higher financing costs of the Glen-Gery takeover and continuing losses at its Belgium subsidiary.

Ferranti

A dilemma for the NEB

There is a wind of change blowing through the British electronics industry and Ferranti, the electronics group, could be the next company it sweeps away.

With EMI now under offer from Thorn, other potential bidders, such as GEC, Racal and Hawker Siddeley, are turning their attention to the forthcoming NEB sale of its 50 per cent stake in Ferranti.

In fact the NEB has not confirmed that this holding will be put on the market, but many feel that despite the recent fall in the equity market, the Ferranti sale must go ahead if the board is to meet the Government's requirement to raise £100m by next April.

A fall in Ferranti profits this year could depress the offer price and give a potential suitor ample opportunity to top it with a bid.

Market forecasts are limited to static pre-tax profits of £9.9m for the year to March 31, 1980. But because the downturn stems mainly from one-off strikes, many feel that the dividend could be raised from a previous 8.84p to 10.7p in the current period. On a share price of 357p this gives a prospective yield of 2.9 per cent which exactly matches GEC's historic yield.

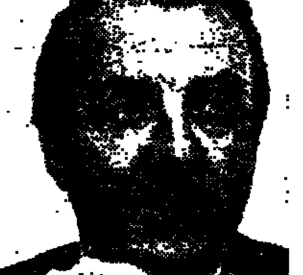
Allowing an offer discount of some 10 per cent on the share price to 322p the yield would rise to 3.32 per cent, hardly attractive given that the records of GEC and Ferranti are unworthy of comparison.

The NEB is apparently "weighing up every possible way of maximizing the return on the investment in very difficult conditions". Many take this to mean that the NEB may prefer an offer by tender to British companies rather than a straight sale of the shares in the market.

The NEB acquired a 62.5 per cent stake in Ferranti in 1974 as part of a £15m plan which rescued Ferranti after its £12m overdraft exceeded its bank facility.

Last year in a sparkling market debut this holding was reduced to 50 per cent after 2.66 million shares were offered to shareholders in a 1-for-3 rights issue at £1. These shares started trading at around 345p, and have since risen to 430p before falling back, the market having seen substantial institutional selling at around 400p.

The other large shareholders are the Ferranti family, who account for over a quarter of the equity and Charter Consolidated, who have just under 5 per cent. Although Charter would not comment on any potential sale of its stake it is thought that its change of emphasis from a mining finance company to an industrial holding company may make it a willing seller. Certainly it did not take the opportunity to increase its holding at last year's rights.



Mr S. Z. de Ferranti

Meanwhile, if there is to be a bidder for Ferranti, Hawker Siddeley is the market favourite to make the first move, though GEC and Racal could also be interested.

Last year Hawker received the £60m compensation payment from the Government for the divisions lost to British Aerospace. This, together with the £49m repayment of loans and £5m dividend payments dramatically improved its balance-sheet. It is thought that Hawker's currently has some £90m of liquid assets.

However, while Hawker may want to bid, it is unlikely that it would want to absorb the whole of Ferranti and may eventually sell on parts of it.

Ferranti's Scottish division, which accounted for around half of last year's trading profit was badly hit by an eight-week strike this autumn which could cost the group around £1m in the current year.

However, the problem at Ferranti is the engineering side where continuing losses are ravaging the balance-sheet.

Last year, losses here amounted to £1.1m, most attributed to the transformers offshoot. Although this subsidiary is currently being closed down, it is thought that it could still be some £700,000 in the red at the year end. Other parts of the engineering division, including container handling and agricultural equipment, are also posing problems. Adding the cost of the strike, losses from this division could lop some £3m from total profits.

At the end of the day the Ferranti family, and particularly chairman Mr Sebastion Ferranti, would not take kindly to any bid advances and may feel safer with the bulk of the NEB holding in the hands of small investors and employees.

No doubt the NEB will write this into their equation when weighing up the merits of an offer for sale.

Alison Mitchell

Rowntree in Holland

Rowntree Mackintosh, the United Kingdom confectionary group, has agreed to pay 66.7m florins (£16.7m) for Nuts Chocolade-Fabriek, a family-owned Dutch company.

Sir Donald Barron, Rowntree's chairman, described Nuts as one of the leading confectionary manufacturers in Europe and said its acquisition would provide his company's European division with extra market penetration and range, especially in Germany.

In 1979, Nuts made profits of about £1m on sales of about £22m. Its assets are put at £5m. The company employs 390 people at a factory near Arnhem, which has recently been modernized and expanded. Its main product is the Nuts bar, which is already distributed in France and Italy by Rowntree.

Nut's new managing director will be Mr J. L. Mackinlay, a main border member of Rowntree Mackintosh

CRA to take over BH South

Conzinc Riotinto of Australia, which is 68.2 per cent owned by Rio Tinto-Zinc, has agreed with Western Mining on terms for taking over BH South, the Australian mining and investment company. The deal will substantially rationalise several Australian mining properties.

CRA and Western Mining were rival bidders for BH South. But after Western offered one of its own shares, plus 50 cents cash for BH South, compared with CRA's offer of four shares plus Ous $1.25 for every five BH South shares, CRA withdrew its bid.

The new arrangement is for Western, if its bid is accepted, to sell various parts of BH South to CRA for 19.3m CRA shares. The assets which will

International

ASHLAND OIL

Ashland Oil's profits for its first fiscal quarter ending December 31, should be up substantially over last year's, chairman, Orin E. Atkins told analysts.

In year ago quarter Ashland earned $50.7m. or $1.33 a share adjusted for a three for two split in December, 1978.

Mr Atkins said that last two quarters of 1980 should be good and would meet stated objective of achieving approximately 20 per cent gain in per share earnings from operations.

In the year just ended, Ashland earned $5.31 a share from operations, adjusted for a three for two split and for repurchase of 15.5m. shares during the year.

MUENCHENER RUECK

Muenchener Rueckversicherungs-Gesellschaft of W Germany raised net profit by 16 per cent to DM54.8m in year ended June 30, but expects earnings to drop again in the current 1979-80 year, the company has told shareholders.

Muenchener Rueck, West Germany's largest reinsurer, is finding reinsurance business is being hit far more by natural catastrophies than a year ago, and results from industrial fire insurance in Germany have worsened.

However, company plans to pay shareholders a bonus of DM4.50 per DM50 share next April to commemorate its 100th anniversary, in addition to the unchanged DM9 dividend to be paid from the 1978-79 results.

SOUTHERN BELL

Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company of America, subsidiary of American Telephone and Telegraph Company, filed for an offering of $500m. of 40-year debentures to be made about December 4.

It said the offer will be negotiated with a group co-managed by Merrill Lynch White Weld capital markets group, Morgan Stanley and Company and Salomon Brothers.

LOCATEL SA

Net profit of 14.11m francs (11.58m) in year ended August 31. Total dividend 15.75 francs (14.25).

Company is subject to a bid from Thorn Electrical Industries of United Kingdom which has been submitted to France's Monopolies Commission.

In brief

EDWARD LE BAS

Edward Le Bas has purchased for cancellation £77,833 10 per cent convertible unsecured loan stock, 1991-96; company intends to make an offer to remaining stockholders in due course.

LINFOOD-GUINNESS PEAT

Guinness Peat have acquired 17,000 ordinary shares in Linfood Holdings and now hold 6.77m (20.03 per cent).

WALTER DUNCAN

Walter Duncan and Goodricke now holds 358,101 ordinary shares (14.08 per cent) in Lawrie Plantation Holdings.

SCOTTISH NORTHERN

Board of Scottish Northern Investment Trust states it should be possible to recommend an increase in year's total dividend, but no special payment will be made between interim and final to take account of exceptional distributions made by British companies following end of dividend controls.

SCHLESINGER GILT FUND

Dividend, 0.68p. Income, after tax, for year to October 31, £826,000 (£281,000).

TUBE INVESTMENTS

Sir Brian Kellett has sold 2,510 shares at 272p each and I. H. Phillips sold 1,888 shares at 272p.

YOUNG COMPANIES

Young Companies Investment Trust's pre-tax revenue for half-year to September 30, £298,000 (£226,000). Interim dividend raised from 2.38p to 2.85p gross. Board hopes it will be possible to recommend some increase in final.

MERGERS CLEARED

Following mergers not to be referred to Monopolies Commission: Rothschild Investment Trust and Hume Holdings; London Scottish Marine Oil and Oil Exploration (Holdings).

ADWEST-RACAL

Holding by Racal Electronics in Adwest Group on November 2 was 1.47m shares (15 per cent) before scrip issue authorised on that day.

LASMO

On November 9, Cazenove and Co, associates of London and Scottish Marine Oil, bought 26,500 shares in London and Scottish at 310p for discretionary investment clients of Morgan Grenfell.

COMBINED ENGLISH

Combined English Stores has purchased £822,500 of its 9½ per cent unsecured loan stock, 1986-91, for cancellation. Remaining stock is £529,000.

COUTTS & CO

Coutts & Co, the bankers, have opened a Representative Office in Winchester, at 60/61 High Street.

L. C. EDWARDS

Scottish Northern Investment Trust now holds 800,000 shares (5.33 per cent) in Louis C. Edwards and Sons (Manchester).

MACARTHYS PHAR.

Mr H. N. Linstead, director, has acquired 3,326 ordinary shares in Macarthys Pharmaceuticals. Mr M. E. A. Keeling, director, has acquired 4,605 and 10,104 shares.

HOVERINGHAM GROUP

Total of 1.73m restricted voting ordinary shares (21.49 per cent), formerly held by Wimpey subsidiary, Second Hamme Investments, have now been transferred to George Wimpey.

DUPLE INTERNATIONAL

Total of 200,000 ordinary shares in Duple International have been acquired by W. S. Yates Ltd, whose holdings are now 4.94m shares (12.02 per cent).

L. AND P. TRUST

Kuwait Investment Office has acquired a further 100,000 shares in London and Provincial Trust and now holds 2.03m shares.

MELVILLE STREET

Melville Street Investments has participated in the formation of two new Scottish companies—Hogarth Safetywear and Skytec Aviation. Melville has provided £75,000 as capital and related funding for Hogarth and £50,000 by equity subscription for Skytec.

M.Y. DART

Following the recent rights issue certain directors and their families have sold their rights entitlement (or part) nil paid, and as a result 948,972 new ordinary shares have been placed with institutions. Following these disposals directors and their families are interested in 3,731,938 shares (21.41 per cent of the enlarged ordinary share capital).

COSALT

Mr J. Carl Ross, president, has acquired 12,010 shares in Cosalt.

JAMES NEILL HOLDINGS

Mr J. H. Neill, chairman and chief executive has disposed of 7,000 ordinary shares to the trustees of a family settlement. Mr Neill remains benefically interested in 288,077 shares 1.6 per cent. Mr Neill has acquired a non-beneficial interest in 143,810 ordinary shares.

CONSOLIDATED GOLD FIELDS AUSTRALIA

Consolidated Gold Fields Australia has effected the sale at $4.40 per stock unit of all its stock units in its 64.8 per cent owned subsidiary Bellambi Coal, to Shell Company of Australia and McIlwraith McEacharn. Completion of the sale is subject to government consent.

LONDON SCOTTISH FINANCE CORPORATION

In his statement chairman, Mr R. H. Landman, tells shareholders that current trading is buoyant and in the absence of any extreme deterioration in the economic and political situation he hoped that the present year would enable profitability to be maintained.

Hoover Trust Fund raises Laundries stake

Hoover Trust Fund has purchased a further 50,000 ordinary shares of 5p each in Provincial Laundries, taking their holding to 783,769 ordinary shares, or 9.1 per cent of the issued capital, from 8.5 per cent previously.

Hoover Pension Trust is the largest single institutional shareholder in the Newcastle-based company, which has other plants and facilities in Leeds, Manchester, London and Godalming (Surrey). Institutions now hold about 28 per cent of the issued capital of Provincial Laundries; with Menteith Investment Trust the second largest holder, itself having 5.5 per cent.

The £1.3m (1978) turnover office and industrial contract cleaning, launderer, garment rental and manufacturing company is currently involved in a contested bid for St. George's Laundry (Worcester).

Business appointments

Debenhams announces new chairman-designate

Mr R. C. Thornton has been elected as chairman-designate of Debenhams in succession to Sir Anthony Burney who is to retire next July. Mr Thornton is presently deputy chairman and chief executive.

Mr C. W. Newton has been made group managing director of Turner & Newall. He was previously managing director of the company's manufacturing operations.

Sir John Cuckney is to succeed Mr M. S. K. Maunsell as vice-chairman of Brooke Bond Liebig.

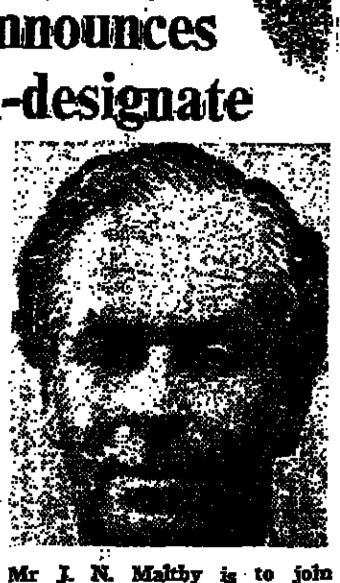
Mr R. C. Cumming, an executive director of The Royal Bank of Scotland, and Mr W. J. A. Dacombe, executive director of Williams & Glyn's Bank, are to join the board of The Royal Bank of Scotland Group.

Mr Neville J. Moore has become a director of Prescott Underwriting and Management Services.

Mr G. D. Gwilt has been made a director of Hammerson Property and Investment Trust.

Mr R. A. Griffin, Mr D. A. Honeyben and Mr C. Holt have joined the board of Burco Dean.

Mr Edmund Dell is now sole chairman and chief executive of Guinness Peat Group. Lord Kissin retired yesterday as joint chairman and has been appointed the company's first president. Mr G. Metcalfe has retired from the board.



Mr J. N. Maltby is to join the Burmah Group as Director-Oil on the board of the parent company.

MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

[illegible]

Commodity chief accuses Britain

From Anthony Hilton
New York, Nov 12

A leading Federal Government official yesterday accused Britain of providing a safe haven for commodity market manipulators and tax evaders, and of sabotaging American efforts to regulate these markets.

Mr James Stone, 32-year-old chairman of the *Commodity* Futures Trading Commission in Washington, said that a recent attempt by international speculators to corner the silver market had been foiled by prompt action by the authorities in Chicago and New York.

But these operators were now channeling their deals through London, to avoid the regulations.

Attempts by the CFTC to discover names of London brokers' clients have been blocked by the firms and the Bank of England.

"Our problem is being worsened by the Thatcher Government's sudden penchant for secrecy which by comparison is putting the Swiss to shame", Mr Stone said. "If we can't monitor trading from London we are in deep trouble. How can the CFTC or the United States exchanges regulate or even monitor trading activity in any commodity here, if the manipulators, not to mention the tax evaders, can operate freely from London bases?"

Relations between the Bank of England and the American authorities have moved from cooperation to almost open confrontation in the past six months, and many Americans believe the British are trying to recapture their share of world commodity trading by encouraging speculators to operate discreetly through London.

The danger that the rift could harm the whole commodity trade has not gone unnoticed here. This has prompted Mr Herbert Barchoff, chairman of the American Copper Council, to suggest that a joint Anglo American committee of prominent commodity traders quietly examine the problem.

Oil companies face higher Canadian tax

Oil companies in Canada could face a significant increase in their tax bills.

The Canadian Prime Minister, Mr Joe Clark said at the weekend that his Government wanted to impose "significantly" higher taxes on the windfall profits of the international oil companies.

The levy would prevent companies from earning excess *profits from oil price increases*, and it would insure that a significant portion of the windfall gains of oils companies was used to help.

Part of the windfall gains of oil companies is used to help enlarge the portion of Canadian *investment in Canadian energy* development, he said in Ottawa.

Banking groups fair differently

Contrasting interim reports were released yesterday by two *firms of bill* brokers and bankers. Seccombe Marshall & Campion reported that in spite of difficult conditions, trading was profitable in the first half-year to October 31. The interim payment is being raised from 7.85p to 8.57p gross.

Meanwhile, King & Shaxson says that conditions in the six months to October 31 were *difficult because of rises in* interest rates, leading to unprofitable trading. King's interim payment is being maintained at 1.42p gross; in addition, a further small dividend is being paid following the cut in income tax. No profit figures were given by either group.

Fiat expects loss but will pay dividend

Fiat SPA of Turin is expected to show a deficit this year because of lost production resulting from strikes during the spring and summer, according to vice-chairman, Signor Umberto Agnelli.

Signor Agnelli repeated earlier predictions that Fiat would distribute a dividend for the year, thereby indicating the company as a whole is expected to earn a profit.

Fiat reported a profit of 74.6bn lire for 1978 and paid a dividend of 185 lire on both ordinary and privileged shares. The company did not say whether its car operations were profitable in 1978 but most analysts believe they were.

In addition to cars, Fiat produces trucks, vans, agricultural and earthmoving equipment, steel and other products.

In an unprecedented interview with the company's own monthly magazine, *Fiat Illustrated*, Signor Agnelli said strikes have cut production by 200,000 cars this year. Unions called the walkouts to back demands for higher pay and a shorter work-week in negotiations for a new three-year labour contract.

Signor Agnelli, who is the younger brother of Fiat chairman, Signor Giovanni Agnelli, also asked workers to boost productivity.

"More productivity means working in the same way they work at Volkswagen, Renault or Ford", he said. "If this *happens* we will have the ability to guarantee employment, maybe increase it, and invest in the south."

Signor Agnelli said industry figures showed that Italian car employees will work an average of 1.54 hours this year, less than the 1.75 hours in France or 1.68 in West Germany.

The appeal was made at a very sensitive stage in Fiat's labour relations. Last month the company ignited a national controversy by dismissing 61 workers for allegedly promoting violence *in its factories.*

Discount market

There were early indications of large shortage of credit in the market yesterday and that was the way it turned out. The Bank of England *gave its large-scale assistance* by purchasing a large quantity of Treasury bills augmented by a small number of local authority bills, all taken directly off the discount houses.

The houses had been reluctant takers of money from the outset, notwithstanding the shortage. They tended to stand back from the market as rates firmed from initial 12¾ to 13¼-¾ in the early part of the morning, since they were mostly keen to achieve as much as possible of their target figures by selling paper.

This reflected the prevalent nervousness and uncertainty about *where MLR will be at the end of* this week. After the Bank had given assistance pretty generously, rates staged a late decline, so that final balances were taken anywhere between 9 per cent and 11 per cent.

Money Market Rates

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 14%
(Last changed 12/6/79)
Clearing Banks Base Rate 14%

[illegible]

Foreign Exchange

Sterling continued to strengthen on *the chances of higher United* Kingdom interest rates. The gain in terms of the dollar was finally 1.85 points at 2.1105, although dealers said the market was rather thin in view of the closure of virtually all American ranks for Veterans' Day.

The effective exchange rate index rose *0.7* to *68.0, after 67.8* at the opening and 67.9 at midday. Rising money market rates, and 1½ per cent increase to 15½ per cent in the base rate of one of the merchant banks strengthened the market's conviction that the Bank of England's MLR will soon be hoisted to 16 per cent.

A large commercial order for dollars hit the Swiss franc and sparked a general decline of continental currencies against the United States unit. Swiss francs dropped almost 2 centimes at one time, before closing at 1.6665 to the dollar, compared with 1.6530 on Friday night. German marks fell from 1.7955 to 1.7975, and French francs softened from 4.2065 to 4.2150.

The Japanese yen, still extremely worried about oil supplies in the light of the situation in Iran, weakened from 243.50 to 247.60 in dollar terms.

Sterling Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) November 12	Market rates (close) November 12
New York	$2.0970-1120	$2.1100-1100
Montreal	$2.4910-5095	$2.5075-5085
Amsterdam	4.17½-22fl	4.21¼-23¼fl
Brussels	60.80-61.45f	61.30-40f
Copenhagen	11.12½-20½k	11.19¼-20¼k
Frankfurt	3.76-81m	3.79¼-80¼m
Lisbon	105.60-107.00e	106.65-95e
Madrid	139.60-140.80p	140.70-80p
Milan	1739-56lr	1755-56lr
Oslo	10.58-70k	10.68¼-69¼k
Paris	8.81½-90¼f	8.89-90f
Stockholm	8.91-9.01½k	9.00¾-01½k
Tokyo	515-28y	521¼-22¼y
Vienna	27.00-40sch	27.32-37sch
Zurich	3.46-52¼f	3.51¼-52¼f

	1 month	3 months
New York	.07c pr-.03c dis	.30-.20c prem
Montreal	.25-.15c prem	1.05-.95c prem
Amsterdam	2¼-1¼c prem	5¾-4¾c prem
Brussels	10c prem-par	28-18c prem
Copenhagen	2½-4½ore disc	6¼-8¼ore disc
Frankfurt	2¾-1¾pf prem	6¾-5¾pf prem
Lisbon	45-95c disc	100-200c disc
Madrid	80-130c disc	220-320c disc
Milan	¾ prem-1¼lr disc	3¼-5¼lr disc
Oslo	2½-1½ore prem	8¼-6¼ore prem
Paris	1¼-¼c prem	3¾-2¾c prem
Stockholm	3½-1½ore prem	8½-6½ore prem
Vienna	17-7gro prem	50-40gro prem
Zurich	.4-3¾c prem	10¾-9¾c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to December 21, 1971 was 68.0, up 0.7.

Sterling: other markets

Ireland	1.0165-	1.0225
Australia	1.9350-	1.9400
Finland	8.0575-	8.0675
Greece	78.15	-78.95
Hong Kong	10.5975-	10.6025
Iran	140-	155
Bahrain	0.7790-	0.8090
Kuwait	0.5745-	0.6045
Malaysia	4.6075-	4.6375
New Zealand	2.1750-	2.1860
Saudi Arabia	7.0755-	7.1055
Singapore	4.5975-	4.6075
South Africa	1.7450-	1.7550

Dollar spot rates

Canada†	1.1887-	1.1890
Ireland*	2.0570-	2.06
Netherlands	1.9975-	1.9990
Belgium	29.06	- 29.08
Denmark	5.3055-	5.3070
West Germany	1.7975-	1.7983
Portugal	50.50	- 50.60
Spain	66.68	- 66.71
Italy	831.60	-832.10
Norway	5.0635-	5.0650
France	4.2135-	4.2165
Sweden	4.2680-	4.2695
Japan	247.50	-247.70
Austria	12.9075-	12.9175
Switzerland	1.6655-	1.6675

† Canada $1=US$0.8412-0.8415.
* Ireland quoted in US currency.

EMS: Euro currency markets

	ECU central rates	currency against ECU	% change from central rate	% change adjusted*	divergence limit
Belgian franc	39.8456	40.1749	+0.83	+0.83	±1.53
Danish krone	7.36594	7.34084	−0.34	−0.34	±1.635
German D-mark	2.48557	2.48287	−0.11	−0.11	±1.125
French franc	5.85522	5.81803	−0.64	−0.64	±1.3575
Dutch guilder	2.74748	2.75791	+0.38	+0.38	±1.515
Irish punt	0.669141	0.670548	+0.21	+0.21	±1.665
Italian lira	1159.42	1148.01	−0.98	−0.98	±4.08

+changes are for the ECU, therefore positive change denotes weak currency.
* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits. Adjustment calculated by The Times.

Good year for James Halstead

Substantial progress is reported by Mr J. S. Leach, chairman of James Halstead *(Holdings)*, which has major interests in the manufacture and sale of PVC floor coverings, protective clothing and coated fabrics. He describes the group's performance in the 1979 annual report as "very satisfactory by any standard".

The group hoisted profits by 111 per cent before tax in 1979 to £1.66m—turnover increased by 10.68 per cent at £20.26m.

Earnings per share of 9.98p were 135 per cent higher and net dividend per ordinary share advanced by 149 per cent. Net assets per share increased to 37.8p (plus 25.6 per cent).

The year has been one of continuing enthusiasm, Mr Leach says, and the company's management teams have continued to explore ways of improving efficiencies throughout the group, as a result of which a number of new developments are under way.

Speaking of the outlook for the current year, Mr Leach refers to doubts about the economic situation at home and overseas and the evils of inflation and recession. In these circumstances he makes no forecast. He asserts however, that the financial and management strengths which the group now possesses "will provide the necessary stability and flexibility to deal with whatever problems we may have to face".

Mr Leach is retiring as chairman of the company in the current year and will be succeeded by deputy chairman, Mr Geoffrey Halstead.

Recent Issues

[illegible]

Euro-$ Deposits

[illegible]

Gold

[illegible]

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	14%
Barclays Bank	14%
BCCI Bank	14%
Consolidated Crdts	14%
C. Hoare & Co	*14%
Lloyds Bank	14%
London Mercantile	14%
Midland Bank	14%
Nat Westminster	14%
Rossminster	14%
TSB	14%
Williams and Glyn's	14%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 11½%, up to £25,000 12½%, over £25,000, 12¾%.

1978-79 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P/E
99	39	Airsprung Group	83	—	6.7	8.1	*4.9
50	35	Armitage & Rhodes	43	—	3.3	8.8	*2.8
222	143	Bardon Hill	222	—	13.8	6.2	*6.5
101	50	Deborah Ord	96	—	5.0	5.2	10.5
93	93	Deborah New Ord Fully Paid Rights	93	—	—	—	—
350	140	Deborah 17½% CULS	350	—	17.5	5.0	—
147	100	Frederick Parker	104	—	12.8	12.3	*8.1
158	113	George Blair	113	—	16.5	14.6	*—
61	45	Jackson Group	61	—	5.2	8.5	*3.6
153	97	James Burrough	121	—	7.2	6.0	10.6
342	260	Robert Jenkins	260	—	31.3	12.0	*5.1
232	150	Torday Limited	232	—	14.3	6.2	*6.1
34	14	Twinlock Ord	23½	—	0.8	3.6	*4.5
82	69	Twinlock 12% ULS	74	—	12.0	16.2	—
54	23	Unilock Holdings	54	—	2.6	4.8	11.5
84	42	Walter Alexander	81	—	4.4	5.4	5.4
190	136	W. S. Yeates	185	—	11.5	6.2	7.2
188	187	W. S. Yeates New	188	—	—	—	—

*Accounts prepared under provision of SSAP15

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

[illegible]

Stock Exchange Prices

Widespread losses

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Nov 5. Dealings End, Nov 16. § Contango Day, Nov 19. Settlement Day, Nov 26

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A — B

1978/79 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
126	92	AAH	113	..	10.0	8.8	7.4
48	35	AC Cars	40	..	0.7	1.7	7.2
185	55½	AGB Research	127	-2	6.3n	3.0	14.0
74	24	AI Ind Prod	24	..	6.8	28.2	2.3
257	153	APV Hldgs	153	-2	9.4b	6.1	3.7
91	54½	Aaronson Bros	70	-1	5.3	7.6	5.8
193	93	Acrow	93	..	4.3	4.6	6.1
109½	38	Do A	46	+3	4.3	9.3	3.0
218	113	Advest Group	136	-2	6.6	4.5	6.5
185	65	Aeronc'l & Gen	175	-5	4.0	2.3	16.7
55	30	Aero Needles	30	..	3.5	11.5	10.3
58	32	Airfix Ind	32	-1½	5.2	16.3	5.1
12½	8	Akzo	£9½	..	27.3	3.8	..
167	15¼	Alcan Ord	16½	-½	114	..	..
91	74	Do 10½%	£77	-½	1050	13.6	..
32½	30¼	Allen W. G.	40	..	4.2	10.6	4.0
164	62	Allied Colloids	132	-3	3.6	2.8	21.0
38	13	Allied Plant	32	..	2.3	7.0	7.4
132	79½	Alpine Hldgs	101	..	5.3	5.2	10.0
375	268	Amal Metal	275	..	12.6	4.6	6.5
171	70	Amal Power	70	..	8.6	12.3	1.9

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

FOREIGN STOCKS

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

C — E

F — H

I — L

M — N

O — S

T — Z

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

RUBBER

1978/79 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
326	72½	Ldn Sumatra	25[illegible]	..	[illegible]	[illegible]	..
95	39	Majedie	79	..	[illegible]	[illegible]	..

TEA

1978/79 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
385	252	Assam Frontier	272	-1	24.0	8.9	..
325	90	Assam In.	200	-5	20.5	10.6	..
465	292	Camellia Inv	410	..	3.5	0.8	..
325	150	McLeod Russel	286	-5	19.5	6.9	..
410	310	Moran	310	..	22.4	7.2	..
175	57	Surmah Valley	162	-2	5.9	5.[illegible]	..
265	91	Warren Plant	227	-4	22.0	9.7	..

MISCELLANEOUS

1978/79 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
22¼	7¾	Algemene PL	£[illegible]	-⅛	[illegible]	[illegible]	20.4
81	42	Calcutta Elec	42	..	[illegible]	[illegible]	..
54½	41½	E Surr Wtr 4.9%	£42	..	490	11.6	..
38¾	31	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£31	..	350	[illegible]	..
24	10	Gt Nthn Tele	£19	..	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
690	310	Imp Cont Gas	579	-11	25.7	4.4	20.0
38	31	Mid Kent Wtr	£31	..	800	26.1	..
212	66	Milford Docks	205	-2	9.0b	4.3	25.5
278	203	Nesco Inv	231	..	23.0b	7.9	..
28½	31	Sunderland Wtr	£31	..	350	11.3	..

* Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. e Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

Prices on this page are now supplied by Exchange Telegraph's Epic system and are the last prices available from London stock market dealers yesterday evening. Various indices produced by The Times, including the index of 150 industrial stocks, are being reviewed and recalculated to cover the period of non-publication.

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Tuesday 13th November at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
FINE CHINESE EXPORT PORCELAIN, JADE CARVINGS AND OTHER HARDSTONES *Cat. (218 illus.) £6.25*

Wednesday 14th November at 10.30 am
MODERN BRITISH DRAWINGS, PAINTINGS AND SCULPTURE *Cat. (143 illus.) £5.25*

Wednesday 14th November at 10.30 am
INEXPENSIVE WINES *Cat. 50p*

Wednesday 14th November at 10.30 am
MILITARY AND NAVAL CAMPAIGN MEDALS, GALLANTRY AWARDS AND OTHER ENGLISH AND FOREIGN ORDERS, MEDALS AND DECORATIONS *Cat. (9 illus.) £1.00*

Wednesday 14th November at 2 pm
ANCIENT COINS *Cat. (61 illus.) £1.00*

Thursday 15th November at 11 am
BRITISH AND CONTINENTAL PEWTER AND METALWORK *Cat. (16 illus.) 85p*

Friday 16th November at 11 am
ENGLISH FURNITURE *Cat. (12 illus.) £1.25*

Tuesday 20th November at 11 am
VALUABLE CONTINENTAL AUTOGRAPH LETTERS AND MANUSCRIPTS *Cat. (62 illus.) £2.00*

Tuesday 20th November at 11 am
GOOD ENGLISH PORCELAIN AND POTTERY *Cat. (129 illus.) £4.50*

Tuesday 20th November at 11 am
ARMS AND ARMOUR *Cat. (17 illus.) £1.50*

Sotheby's Belgravia
19 Motcomb Street, London SW1X 8LB
Telephone: (01) 235 4311

Wednesday 14th November at 10.30 am
SCULPTURE *Cat. (212 illus.) £3.45*

Thursday 15th November at 10.30 am
POT LIDS, GOSS, FAIRINGS, COMMEMORATIVE AND STAFFORDSHIRE WARES INCLUDING PORTRAIT FIGURES *Cat. (20 illus.) 30p*

Tuesday 20th November at 11 am
VICTORIAN WATERCOLOURS *Cat. (146 illus.) £1.85*

115 Chancery Lane
(Hodgson's Rooms) London WC2A 1PX
Telephone: (01) 405 7238

Thursday 15th November and following day at 1 pm
CONTINENTAL ILLUSTRATED BOOKS *Illus. Cat. £5.00*

Tuesday 20th November at 11 am at Bond Street.
A printed broadside advertising the curative properties of hippopotomi's teeth

Sotheby King and Chasemore
Station Road, Pulborough, West Sussex RH20 1AJ
Telephone: (07982) 2081

Tuesday 13th November and following two days at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
PAINTINGS, PRINTS, MINIATURES AND SILHOUETTES; SELECTED FURNITURE; CLOCKS; SILVER; SELECTED JEWELLERY AND BIJOUTERIE *Illus. Cat. £1.30*

Wednesday 21st November at 10.30 am
ANTIQUARIAN AND MODERN BOOKS *Cat. 60p*

Sotheby Bearne
Rainbow, Torquay, Devon TQ2 5TG
Telephone: (0803) 26277

Wednesday 14th November at 2.15 pm
CHINESE CERAMICS *Illus. Cat. £1.00*

Wednesday 21st November at 10.30 am and 2.15 pm
GEORGIAN VICTORIAN AND MODERN SILVER *Illus. Cat. £1.00*

at Hopetoun House
South Queensferry, West Lothian, EH30 9SL
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Tuesday 13th November at 6 pm and 9 pm
SCOTTISH AND SPORTING PRINTS, PAINTINGS, DRAWINGS AND WATERCOLOURS *Cat. (246 illus.) £3.00*

Sotheby Parke Bernet A.G.
20 Bleicherweg, CH-8022 Zurich
Telephone: (1) 2020011

Tuesday 13th November at 10 am and following day at 10 am and 2 pm
FINE EUROPEAN SILVER, GOLD BOXES, OBJECTS OF VERTU, FABERGÉ AND RUSSIAN WORKS OF ART *Illus. Cat. £8.00*

Tuesday 13th November at 3 pm
A FINE COLLECTION OF PORTRAIT MINIATURES *Illus. Cat. £4.00*

Tuesday 13th November at 5 pm
CLOCKS AND WATCHES *Illus. Cat. £4.00*

Wednesday 14th November at 4.30 pm and following day at 10 am, 2 and 5 pm
FINE JEWELS *Illus. Cat. £11.00*

Wednesday 14th November at 8.30 pm
19TH AND 20TH CENTURY SWISS PAINTINGS *Illus. Cat. £5.50*

Friday 16th November at 10 am
FINE CARPETS *Illus. Cat. £4.00*

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Sunday 25th November at 4 pm
IMPORTANT SCULPTURE OF THE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY *Illus. Cat. £5.50*

Sunday 25th November at 9.45 pm
FINE FRENCH FURNITURE, CHINESE AND EUROPEAN PORCELAIN *Illus. Cat. £5.50*

Monday 26th November at 2 pm
FINE FRENCH FURNITURE OF THE 18TH CENTURY *Illus Cat. £5.50*

Monday 26th November at 4 pm
FRENCH FURNITURE AND WORKS OF ART OF THE 19TH CENTURY *Illus. Cat. £5.50*

Monday 26th November at 9.45 pm
IMPORTANT DRAWINGS AND PAINTINGS INCLUDING FRENCH 18TH AND 19TH CENTURY ORNAMENTAL DRAWINGS FROM THE ODIOT COLLECTION, PARIS *Illus. Cat. £5.50*

Tuesday 27th November at 4 and 9.45 pm
IMPORTANT EUROPEAN SILVER *Illus. Cat. £5.50*

Wednesday 28th November at 11 am, 4 and 9.45 pm
VALUABLE PRINTED BOOKS FROM THE LIBRARIES OF THE LATE LOUIS CARTIER AND THE LATE DR. ARPAD PLESCH *Illus. Cat. £5.50*
Catalogue of the Cartier collection excluding books £7.00

Sotheby's International Art Diary 1980 now available at all our salerooms and offices at £9.00, or by post at £9.90 from Catalogue Department, 2 Merrington Road, London SW6 1RG
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Phillips

Tuesday 13 November 11am
FURNITURE, EASTERN CARPETS & WORKS OF ART

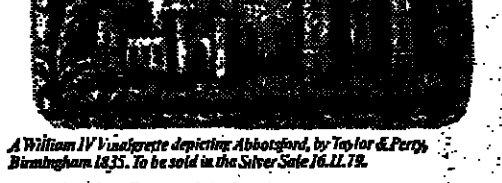
Tuesday 13 November 1.30pm
BOOKS, MSS., & MAPS

Wednesday 14 November 11am
CHINESE & ORIENTAL CERAMICS & WORKS OF ART

Wednesday 14 November 2pm
SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS
Illus. Catalogue £1.25 by post

Thursday 15 November 11am
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS
Illus. Catalogue 54p by post

Friday 16 November 11am
SILVER & GOLD BOXES, VINAIGRETTES & A COLLECTION OF WINE LABELS
Illus. Catalogue £2 by post
See Illustration



A William IV Vinaigrette depicting Abbotsford, by Taylor & Perry, Birmingham 1835. To be sold in the Silver Sale 16.11.79.

Monday 19 November 11am
FURNITURE, EASTERN CARPETS & OBJECTS

Monday 19 November 11am
FINE WATERCOLOURS
Illus. Catalogue 74p by post

Tuesday 20 November 11am
FURNITURE, EASTERN CARPETS & WORKS OF ART

Tuesday 20 November 1.30pm
FINE JEWELS
Illus. Catalogue £1.25 by post.

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Thursday 15 November 10am
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View: Wednesday 9am-7pm

Thursday 15 November 12 noon
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Illus. Catalogue £1 by post
View: Wednesday 9am-7pm and Morning of Sale

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Friday 16 November 10am
FURNITURE, PORCELAIN & OBJECTS
View: Thursday 9am-5pm

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English Drawings and Watercolours. Catalogue £1.45.
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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15 at 11 a.m.
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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20 at 11 a.m.
Art Nouveau, Art Déco and Studio Pottery. Catalogue £1.10.
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20 at 11 a.m.
Important English Drawings and Watercolours. Catalogue £4.

OVERSEAS SALES
IN ROME
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Papal and Ancient Coins, Orders and Decorations. Catalogue £2.
IN GENEVA
AT THE HOTEL RICHEMOND
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19 at 10.30 a.m. and 3 p.m.
Russian Works of Art. Catalogue £4.
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19 at 6.30 p.m.
Fine and Rare Wines. Catalogue £1.
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19 at 9 p.m. and WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21 at 10.30 a.m. and 3 p.m.
Gold Boxes and Important Objects of Vertu. Catalogue £4.
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20 at 10.30 a.m.
Fine Watches and Clocks. Catalogue £3.
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20 at 3 p.m. and 9 p.m.
Fine European Silver. Catalogue £4.
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21 at 8 p.m. and THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22 at 10 a.m., 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Magnificent Jewels. Catalogue £6.
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23 at 10.30 a.m.
Art Nouveau and Art Déco. Catalouge £2.50.
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Bonhams 1793

Montpelier Galleries, Montpelier Street, Knightsbridge, London SW7 1HH. Tel: 01-584 9161. Telex: 916477 Bonham G.

New Chelsea Galleries, 65-69 Lots Road, London SW10 0RN. Tel: 01-352 0466. Representatives in Scotland, N. Midlands, S.W. England, E. Anglia, W. England & Wales.

At the Montpelier Galleries
On view 2 days prior
Tuesday evening view until 7 pm.

Wednesday 14th November at 10.30 am.
FINE FURS incl. fine quality mink, leopard, squirrel, swakara, sable, fox, musquash; coats, jackets, boleros & hats; rugs & skins of all kinds. Cat. 30p. View Tuesday 13th 10-4.
Wednesday 14th November at 7 pm.
***FINE ART AUCTION** in aid of Women Caring* Trust and Harding Housing Association. View & bric-a-brac stalls 13th Nov. 9-5 pm. & 14th Nov. 9-3 pm. Cat. 50p.

Thursday 15th November at 11 am.
FINE 17TH CENTURY DUTCH FRAMES & EUROPEAN OIL PAINTINGS Illust cat. 50p.
Thursday 15th November at 2.30 pm.
ENGLISH, CONTINENTAL & ORIENTAL FURNITURE incl. 18th C. Normandy oak dresser; set of 6 Geo. III walnut chairs; good Geo. II gilt mirror; Chinese lacquer cabinet on stand; good Chinese rosewood altar table; Victorian giltwood & malachite centre table; Geo. II mahogany drop leaf dining table. Cat. 30p.

Friday 16th November at 10.30 am.
ORIENTAL CERAMICS, BRONZES, IVORIES & WORKS OF ART incl. good Chinese & Japanese ivories; famille rose & later decorative ceramics. Illust. Cat. £1.

Tuesday 20th November at 11 am.
SILVER & PLATE incl. a good Geo. III hot water jug; Geo. III Emes & Barnard teapot; large collection of various flatware; modern silver & reproduction holloware. Cat. 40p. View Tues. 13th 5.30-7; Fri. 16th & Mon. 19th 9-4.

At the New Chelsea Galleries
Tuesday 13th November at 10 am.
FURNITURE & CARPETS
Cat. 30p. View Tuesday 9-10.

Values change - The Times doesn't.

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ANCIENT, ENGLISH and FOREIGN COINS
IN GOLD, SILVER AND BRONZE
(Illustrated Catalogue (4 Plates)—Price £1).

Catalogues for further Sales of Coins and Medals to be held in the Winter Season are now in course of preparation. In mid-February we will be offering a *fine Collection of Peninsular Medals* (including one large and four small gold Medals), to the Royal Artillery and Northamptonshire Regiment, together with other properties of British Orders, Decorations and Medals. Collectors desirous of selling should contact Glendining & Co. promptly.
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Thursday 22nd November at 2pm
FINE PAINTINGS

DRAWINGS AND WATERCOLOURS include a fine album of 24 landscape studies by William Turner of Oxford, 'The Alps near Briançon', by Clarkson Stanfield, R.A., a magnificent pair of 'Elegant Company on Horseback near the Banks of the Isar, Munich', by Wilhelm von Kobell.
OIL PAINTINGS include 'The Reapers', by George Elgar Hicks, 'In the Liedr Valley' and 'On the Glaslyn', by Walter J. Watson, 'The Centre of Attraction', by James Hayllar, 'On the Leam near Offchurch', by Fredrick Whitehead, 'Near Rustall, Tunbridge Wells', by John F. Tennant, 'Estuary Calm', a pair by Adolphus Knell, 'Winter', by Johann-Christoffer Drathmann, 'Winter in Holland', by Lodewijk Johannes Kleijn.

On view: Wednesday 11am-8pm and morning of sale, 9am-12.30pm
Illustrated Catalogue £2.00 (£2.50 by post, prepaid).

Further information from Peter Brooks,
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Telephone: (0460) 73041 Telex: CLARKLAW CRKNE 46251

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(continued on page 32)

PERSONAL CHOICE

Cheryl Campbell and Peter Woodward in part two of Testament of Youth (BBC 2, 7.15)

My initial conviction that Question Time (BBC 1, 11.17 pm) was little more than Radio's Any Questions ?, with pictures, has been crumbling. Visually, it is now looking good. The cameras are better informed as to where questioners are sitting in the auditorium and Robin Day is not making such heavy weather of chairing what is, after all, a lighter assignment than he normally gets. Best of all, though, the audience are getting more screen time. Tonight's panel : Clement Freud, Ann Leslie the journalist, David Owen, former Foreign Secretary, and Lord Thorneycroft, chairman of the Tory Party.

Man Alive (BBC 2, 9.25) rarely makes comfortable viewing. It eschews soft options and looks life squarely in the face. Its two-part investigation into drugs abuse in Britain got off to a harrowing start last week ; I will not easily forget its bleak, hopeless conclusions. Part two tonight calls itself The Cure, so despair should be less in evidence. The interviewer, Nick Ross, has handled a difficult task in an exemplary manner.

One of the good things to come out of the recent ITV strike was the unimpeded view it opened up of that consistently entertaining and instructive magazine programme Pebble Mill at One (BBC 1, 1.00). Doubtless it will keep many of the captive converts. Today's edition carries an item which centres on two desperately poor Indian children, living in Andhra Pradesh, who have been sponsored by the programme. Rip Hodson, executive director of Action in Distress, is interviewed by Marian Foster.

Part two of Elaine Morgan's respectful but far from slavish adaptation of Vera Brittain's Testament of Youth gets a repeat showing (BBC 2, 7.15). Tonight's episode takes in the outbreak of war, 1914. Everything about this production strikes me as being as right as time and money can make it. As an evocation of the period (manners, speech as well as props) it stops short only of the miraculous.

Listening regularly to Douglas Stuart's work in The World Tonight (Radio 4, 10.00) leads me to insist that, if any would-be interviewer wants a model on which to base himself, Mr Stuart cannot be bettered. He commands an interview but does not dominate it. He has a good voice, good sense, good knowledge and a good programme that is entirely worthy of him.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN : †STEREO ; *BLACK AND WHITE ; (r) REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

BBC 1

9.35 am For Schools, Colleges : 9.35 Mathshow, 9.58 Talkabout, 10.16 Look and Read, 10.38 Resource Unit, 11.00 Watch (aeroplanes), 11.17 It's Your Choice (play), 11.38 Taking Shape, 12.05 pm General Studies.

12.45 News and weather.

1.00 Pebble Mill at One : including Dr David Delvin's Family Matters (see Personal Choice).

1.45 Bagpuss : puppet story (r).

2.00 You and Me : who is the tallest ? (r).

2.14 For Schools, Colleges : 2.14 Rendez-vous ; France (r). 2.30 English : Plough and the Stars (r).

3.20 Pawb yn ei Fro (Welsh quiz game).

3.55 Play School : Trevor Bill the Road Mender (story).

4.20 Secret Squirrel : cartoon.

4.25 Jackanory : Circus comes to Town (with Lindsay Brown).

4.40 Buford Files and Dinky Dog : cartoons.

5.00 John Craven's Newsround : newsreel for youngsters.

5.10 The Record Breakers : Roy Castle and Norris McWhirter are the presenters. Items include a visit to an Hawaiian canning factory.

5.40 News : with Kenneth Kendall.

5.55 Nationwide : news features and entertainment.

7.00 Rolf Harris's Cartoon Time : including Tom and Jerry.

7.30 Look Back and Laugh : highlights from this long-running series. Includes some moments that we have not seen before.

8.30 Kiss the Girls and Make Them Cry : part 3 of this West Country comedy series about a modern-day Romeo.

9.00 News : with Angela Rippon.

9.25 Play for Today : G. F. Newman's drama Billy, about two children who are put into care with foster parents.

10.45 Mainstream : the Humphrey Burton arts programme that has had some bad publicity.

11.17 Question Time : Robin Day chairs this question-and-answer programme that has improved out of all recognition (see Personal Choice).

12.10 Weather/Regional News.

Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: Scotland: 10.38 am, Around Scotland. 11.28, [illegible] Scotland. 12.40 pm, News. 5.55, Reporting Scotland. 7.00, On the [illegible]. 10.45, Current Account. 11.15, Can Sep. 11.50, [illegible] Away. 12.05 am, Mainstream. 12.25 am, News. Wales: 10.38 am, I Ysgol. 4.45 pm, O'r Raw Samson. 5.55, Wales Today. 7.00, Heddiw. 7.15, [illegible]. 7.45, Rising Stars. 12.10 am, News. Northern Ireland: 3.52 pm, News. 5.55, Scene Around Six. 7.00, [illegible]. 12.10 am, Weatherman. 12.12, Festival Notebook. 12.32, News. England: 5.55 pm, Regional magazines. 7.00, East: Past Positive. London and South East: Cartoon Time. Midlands: [illegible]. North: [illegible]. North East: What's Cooking. North West: [illegible]. South: Pure Invention. South West: The Mark Quit [illegible].

BBC 2

10.05 am Business World : problems for a brewery.

11.00 Play School : see BBC1 at 3.55.

11.25 Write Away : helping hand for bad spellers.

11.40 A Child's Place : a programme about children's rights (first seen last Sunday).

2.30 The Engineers : feature about a Roll-Royce design and technology director.

3.00 Whistle Blowers : Panorama journalists investigate the Georgi Markov killing (r).

3.30 The Living City : sociology series. Work attitudes are studied (r).

4.00 Working with Young People : the selection of staff at an East London youth counselling and information centre.

4.30 Working for Safety : the role that inspection plays in ensuring health and safety at work (r).

5.35 Flash Gordon's Trip to Mars : episode 12 of this venerable extra-terrestial adventure serial : Ming the Merciless.

5.55 Grange Hill : serial about a comprehensive school.

6.15 The Waltons : more domestic happenings from Earl Hamner's autobiographical novel Spencer's Mountain.

7.05 News and weather.

7.15 Testament of Youth : part 2 of this worthy adaptation of Vera Brittain's autobiography (see Personal Choice).

8.10 Chronicle : The Bridge that Spanned the World : all about the famous iron bridge in Shropshire, and its Quaker connexion in Pennsylvania.

9.00 Not the Nine O'Clock News : largely lunatic sketches, some of them in questionable artistic and moral taste.

9.25 Man Alive : second of a two-part study of the drugs problem in Britain (see Personal Choice).

10.15 The Mike Harding Show : Songs and comedy. Includes the re-building of the Ark, with Noah as a fish fryer.

10.45 Floodlit Rugby League : Leigh or Barrow v Widnes. Highlights from the match.

11.15 News and weather.

11.30-12.15 The Old Grey Whistle Test : tonight's bands are Herman Brood and his Wild Romance and The Skids.

THAMES

9.30 For Schools (until 12.00). 9.30 Experiment, 9.47 Seeing and Doing, 10.04 Reading with Lenny, 10.16 Watch your Language, 10.35 The English Programme, 11.05 Leapfrog, 11.22 Look Around, 11.39 The Land.

12.00 Simon in the Land of Chalk Drawing : Bernard Cribbins tells the story of Simon and the moon rocket.

12.10 Stepping Stones : learning without tears for the very young.

12.30 Emmerdale Farm : a wedding is in the offing.

1.00 News at One.

1.20 Thames News : local round-up.

1.30 About Britain : Clive Gunnell's West Country walk takes him to Bosigran, Cornwall and the mining village of Pendeen.

2.00 After Noon Plus : magazine programme of special interest to women. Presenters are Mary Parkinson and Trevor Hyett.

2.45 Love Boat : pulp fiction yarns for the undiscerning viewer.

3.45 Georgie Fame and Company : a musical half-hour with this popular singer and his guests.

4.15 Under the Same Sun : humorous story of a German fruit farmer. James Hayter is the narrator.

4.45 Magpie : magazine programme for children, presented by Jenny Hanley, Mick Robertson and Tommy Boyd.

5.15 Monty's London : are tourists spoiling London for Londoners ? Monty Modlyn, the Common Man's Robin Day, finds out.

Yootha Joyce and Brian Murphy in the comedy series George and Mildred (ITV, 8.30).

5.45 News.

6.00 Thames News.

6.25 Help ! Joan Shenton assists viewers over life's hurdles.

6.35 Crossroads : motel series. Tonight : a mother stands accused.

7.00 Sapphire and Steel : thriller series with David McCallum and Joanna Lumley.

7.30 Star Games : Showbusiness people compete against each other in strenuous events. Tonight : the disc jockeys versus musical entertainers.

8.30 George and Mildred : domestic comedy series, starring Yootha Joyce and Brian Murphy.

9.00 McCormack—Special Agent : Not the secret service agent, but the lawyer who manages the affairs of men like Muhammad Ali and Bjorn Borg and a host of film stars. He is Mark McCormack, a wealthy American.

10.00 News at Ten.

10.30 Film : Crash (with William Shatner and Eddie Albert). How did an airliner come to crash in the Everglades ? A sequel to "Ghost of Flight 401", seen two weeks ago.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News
6.10 Farming
6.30 Today
7.00, 8.00 News
7.30, 8.30 Headlines
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament
9.00 News
9.05 Tuesday Call : 01-580 4411—Cooking for Christmas
10.00 News
10.05 In Britain Now
10.30 Service
10.45 Prester John (7)
11.00 News
11.05 Thirty-minute Theatre : Alice's Ashes
11.35 Towards 2000
12.00 News
12.02 You and Yours
12.20 Down Your Way
12.55 Weather
1.00 World at One
1.40 The Archers
2.00 News
2.02 Woman's Hour
3.00 News
3.02 Listen with Mother
3.15 The Moonstone (5)†
4.10 Bookshelf
4.40 Preview
4.45 Short Story : Ferdie's Night of Magic
5.00 PM
5.55 Weather
6.00 News
6.30 Many a Slip†
7.00 News
7.05 The Archers
7.20 We Can't Go on Mating Like This
8.05 In Touch
8.30 The Magic of Music†
9.15 Kingdoms in the Sun : Britain and Portugal—the Oldest Alliance
9.30 Kaleidoscope
10.00 World Tonight
10.30 The Hornblower Story (4)†
11.00 Book at Bedtime : Nightmare Abbey (7)
11.15 Financial World Tonight
11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00 News, weather
12.15 am-12.23 Inshore forecast

VHF

6.50 am Regional news, weather
7.50 Regional news, weather
9.15-10.30 Schools : Voix de France : Deutsch fur die Oberstufe ; The World of Work ; Playtime
10.45-12.00 Schools : La France aujourd'hui ; Let's Move! ; Music Club : Introducing Science
2.00 pm-3.00 Schools : Not So Long Ago : Days That Made History ; Stories and Rhymes
5.50 Regional news, weather
11.00 Study on 4 : Por Aqui (7)

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather
7.00 News
7.05 Records : Handel, Giazotto, Poulenc, Debussy, Ravel†
8.00 News
8.05 Records : Copland, Holst, Keel, MacDowell†
9.00 News
9.05 Rameau (La Danse)†
10.00 Northern University Concert : Clementi, Schumann†
10.50 Interval reading
10.55 Maw, Finzi, Grieg†
11.45 Edith Sitwell : settings (Walton, Williamson) and readings†
12.10 pm BBC Welsh SO/Irwin Hoffman : Beethoven, Saint-Saens, Fauré†
1.00 News
1.05 Six Continents
1.20 BBC Welsh SO : Saint-Saëns, Mendelssohn (Sym 4)†
2.05 The Polignac Salon†
2.55 NYO, Seaman : Berlioz, Walton (Cello Conc)†
3.35 In Short
3.45 NYO : Tchaikovsky (Sym 5)†
4.55 Jazz Today†
5.25 Homeward Bound†
5.45 News
5.50 Homeward Bound†
6.15 At Home : Mozart, Weber†
7.10 Poetry reading : Richard Burton†
7.30 BBC Northern SO/Ian Krenz (live from Free Trade Hall, Manchester) : Ravel, Szymanowski Vln Conc 1—Wilkomirska†
8.15 Utopia and Reality
8.35 BBC Northern SO : Lutoslawski (Livre), Debussy (La Mer)†
9.30 Poetry Cambridge
10.30 Busoni†
10.50 Beecham Legacy : Wagner, Balakirev (Sym 1)†
11.55-12.00 News

Radio 2

5.00 am News, weather. 5.03 Tony Brandon†. 7.32 Terry Wogan†. 10.03 Jimmy Young†. 12.15 pm Waggoners' Walk. 12.30 Pete Murray†. 2.15 David Hamilton†. 4.15 Much More Music†. 5.00 News. 5.05 Waggoners' Walk. 5.20 John Dunn. 6.45, Sports Desk. 7.02 Brian Fahey and the BBC Scottish Radio Orchestra†. 7.30 Folk 79 : John Kirkpatrick, Sue Harris†. 8.02 Tuesday Night is Gala Night†. 9.02 Max Jaffa†. 9.55 Sports Desk. 10.02 Laughter in the Air (8)†. 11.06 Brian Matthew. 2.02 am-5.00 You and the Night and the Music†.

8.02 pm-9.30 Soccer Special (MW only).

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 6.00 Dave Lee Travis. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.31 Paul Burnett. 2.00 pm Andy Peebles. 4.31 Kid Jensen. 7.00 Personal Call. 8.00 Mike Read. 9.50 Newsbeat. 10.00 John Peel†. 12.00-5.00 am As Radio 2.

VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2 : 5.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

6.00 am, Newsdesk. 7.00, World News. 7.09, Twenty-Four Hours. 7.45, Network UK. 8.00, World News. 8.09, Reflections. 8.15, Europa. 8.30, Talking about Music. 9.00, World News. 9.09, British Press Review. 9.15, World Today. 9.30, Financial News. 9.40, Look Ahead. 9.45, Tony Myatt Request Show. 10.15, Nature Notebook. 10.30, Sports International. 11.00, World News. 11.09, News about Britain. 11.15, Letter from London. 11.25, Scotland This Week. 11.30, Brain of Britain Quiz. 12.00, Radio Newsreel. 12.15 am, Benny Green's Album Time. 12.45, Sports Round-up. 1.00, World News. 1.09, Twenty-Four Hours. 1.30, Network UK. 1.45, The Sky at Night. 2.30, John Peel. 3.00, Radio Newsreel. 3.15, Outlook. 4.00, World News. 4.09, Commentary. 5.00, World News. 5.09, Scotland This Week. 8.00, World News. 8.09, Twenty-Four Hours. 9.15, The Pleasure's Yours. 10.00, World News. 10.09, World Today. 10.25, Scotland This Week. 10.30, Financial News. 10.40, Reflections. 10.45, Sports Round-up. 11.00, World News. 11.09, Commentary. 11.15, Shakespeare's Heroes. 11.30, Thirty-Minute Theatre. 12.00, World News. 12.09 am, News about Britain. 12.15, Radio Newsreel. 12.30, A Jolly Good Show. 1.15, Outlook. 1.45, Put Out More Flags. 2.00, World News. 2.09, British Press Review. 2.15, Twentieth Century Piano Music. 2.30, All Things Considered. 3.00, World News. 3.09, News about Britain. 3.15, World Today. 3.30, Benny Green's Album Time. 4.00, Newsdesk. 4.30, Sounds New. 5.45, World Today.

WAVELENGTHS : Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF. Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. BBC World Service : med wave 648kHz (463m).

REGIONAL TV

Granada

As Thames except: 1.20, Granada Reports. 2.45, Family. 3.45, Georgie Fame and Company. 5.10, This is Your Right. 5.15, Crossroads. 6.00, Granada Reports. 6.30, Cabbages and Kings.

Southern

As Thames except: 1.20, Southern news and weather. 2.45, London Belongs to Me. 3.45, Georgie Fame and Company. 5.15, Dick Tracy cartoon. 5.20, Crossroads. 6.00, Day by Day. 12.15, Southern News Extra. 12.20, Weather. Experiencing Exile.

Border

As Thames except: 1.20, Border news. 2.25, The Love Boat. 3.45, Georgie Fame and Company. 5.15, The Squirrels. 6.00, Lookaround Tuesday. 10.00, News and Border weather. 12.15, Border news, weather.

Yorkshire

As Thames except: 1.20, Calendar News. 2.45, Cabbages and Kings. 3.15, Calendar Tuesday. 3.45, Georgie Fame and Company. 5.15, The Squirrels. 6.00, Calendar, weather. 12.15, The Human Face of China.

Tyne Tees

As Thames except: 9.20, The Good Word. 1.20, News and Lookaround. 5.15, Mr and Mrs. 6.00, Northern Life. 12.30, Epilogue.

Grampian

As Thames except: 9.20, First Thing. 1.20, Headlines. 2.45, Young Ramsey. 5.15, Survival: The Swamp People. 6.00, Grampian Today. 6.05, Country Focus. 12.15, Reflections. 12.20, News.

Scottish

As Thames except: 1.25, News and Road and Weather. 2.45, The Electric Theatre Show. 3.15, Cabbages and Kings. 5.15, Tales of Crime, Bill Knox. 5.20, Crossroads. 6.00, Scotland Today. 6.30, What's your Problem. 10.00, News and Scottish headlines. 12.20, Late Call.

HTV

As Thames except: 1.20, Report West Headlines. 1.25, Report Wales Headlines. 2.45, Family, new series (Sada Thompson, James Broderick). 3.45, The Entertainers, music. 5.15, Magilla Gorilla. 5.20, Crossroads. 6.00, Report West. 6.15, Report Wales. 6.30, Georgie Fame and Company. 10.00, News, Report West Headlines. 12.15, Weather.

HTV CYMRU/WALES
As HTV general service except: 1.20, Penawdau Newyddion y Dydd. 4.15, Goglis. 6.00, Y Dydd. 10.00, News. Report Wales Headlines. 10.30, Dim Ond Heddiw. 11.30, Country Comes West. 12.00, Weather.

HTV WEST: As HTV general service except: 1.20, Report West Headlines. 6.15, Report West.

Channel

As Thames except: 12.00 to 12.30, Closedown. 1.20, News. 5.15, Fam. 6.00, Report at Six. 10.28, News and Weather. 12.15, Commentaries.

Westward

As Thames except: 12.27, Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 1.20, Westward headlines. 3.45, Georgie Fame and Company. 5.15, Sam. 6.00, Westward Diary. 10.28, News and weather. 10.32, Film: Crash. 12.15, Faith for Life. 12.20, West Country weather and shipping forecast.

Anglia

As Thames except: 1.25, Anglia News. 5.15, Survival, follow my leader. 6.00, About Anglia. 12.15, Anthology.

ATV

As Thames except: 1.20, Newsdesk. 2.45, Family serial. 3.45, Georgie Fame and Company. 5.15, Mr and Mrs. 6.00, Today. 12.00, Stars on Ice.

Ulster

As Thames except: 1.20, Lunchtime. 2.45, Young Ramsey. 3.45, Georgie Fame and Company. 4.13, News Headlines. 5.15, Cartoon. 5.20, Crossroads. 6.00, Good Evening Ulster. 12.15, Bedtime.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 30

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". . . But thou wast not so angry with us, Lord, as to destroy us, . . . seed and name: thou keepest faith . . . the root is left, we are here today . . ."—I Esdras 8: 88,89 (N.E.B.).

BIRTHS

ARMOUR.—On Sunday, March 4, 1979, to Susan and John, of . . .

. . .

BLAKE.—On 21st September, 1979, in Manchester to Susan (nee Hill) and John—a daughter (Rachel Nancy).

BOOKER.—To Janet (nee Flint) and Peter, in Nottingham, on 21st January, 1979, a son (Theo Edmund Flint).

BROOKE.—On 19th March, 1979, at University College Hospital, to Sophie (nee Vaulier) and Michael—a third son (Benjamin).

. . .

MITTING.—On February 16th, 1979, at the North Staffs Maternity Hospital, to Judith (nee Hampson) and John—a son (Edward Nicholas).

MOOK.—On May 23rd to John and Christine (nee O'Mahony)—a son (John Andrew).

O'CALLAGHAN.—On November 1st to Vanessa (nee Langton-Lockton) and Dr Timothy O'Callaghan—a daughter (Edwina Celeste), a sister for Holly, Frances, Jerome, Mercedes and Daphne.

BIRTHDAYS

MARRIAGES

DIAMOND WEDDINGS

DEATHS

. . . Mary Oenone (nee Pinker), wife of Cyril and daughter of James Brand Pinker, literary agent, peacefully after 53 years of unbroken happiness, leaving loving son, devoted daughters, five grandchildren and one great grandson. Privately cremated. Letters c/o Lloyds Bank, Thame, Oxon.

LYNN (nee Collins), MARGARET JOAN, wife of Robert M. Lynn, on January 13th, at The University Hospital of Wales in Cardiff.

. . .

MEMORIAL SERVICES

LLEWELLYN SMITH.—A Memorial Service for Martin Llewellyn Smith will be held in the Chapel of St Andrew's School, Pangbourne, on Sunday, Nov. 18th, at 2.30 p.m.

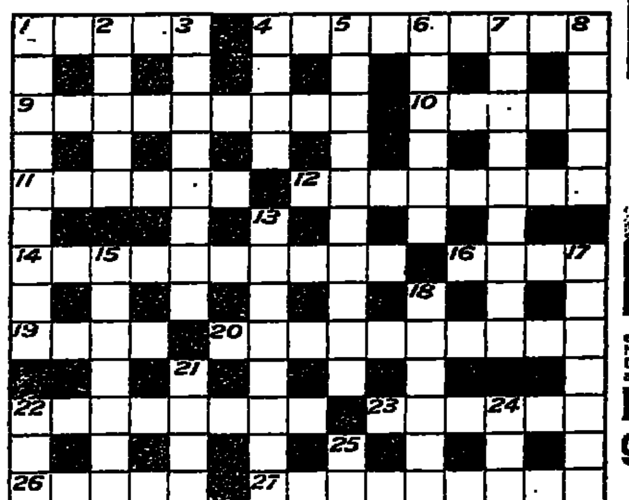
IN MEMORIAM

. . .

BARTON, EDWARD JOHN, priest.—Ethel and Geoffrey. In loving memory, today and always.—C. in God's Keeping.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,071

For report of 1979 Cutty Sark/Times National Crossword Championship see Mr Akenhead's article next Saturday.



ACROSS

1 Henceforth, we hope, like ever-rolling streams (5).
4 Unwilling to undertake role of bird-watcher (6-3).
9 Such shady dealing is not on the cards (9).
10 This tea contained in this teapot (5).
11 Are these sins so dull? (6).
12 Jesuit confounded giant with Scottish name (8).
14 Sporting facility for a hundred in resort (10).
16 Tobacco 100p? (4).
19 6 disturbance describable as "a —— of colour"? (4).
20 Horrified about engineer being so dressed (10).
22 Georgia only included in The Spirit of America (8).
23 A pig-stealer, I see—say, what energy! (6).
26 Point to resident magistrate in rage (5).
27 Meaning a worker of some consequence (9).
28 The law can ride on to destruction (9).
29 Chucked one into the outhouse (5).

DOWN

1 Big noise in 26 no longer silenced (9).
2 Aimed to disrupt means of communication (5).
3 £1 in copper in certain circumstances for clerical garb (8).
4 Over-grill this fish? (4).
5 First man up on a 22 *ac* vehicle in the island (10).
6 Like (Grand?) National characteristics? (6).
7 Some lords are betting on one form of ceremony (9).
8 Long story without point (5).
13 Capital punishment the 1 *ac* has survived (10).
15 Angry comment on its prolonged absence? (9).
17 Devoted many to one furry friend indeed (9).
18 The race including, in 1 *ac*, this 15 *dn* (8).
21 Roman priest who starts a Spanish dance (6).
22 *Contributes* to giving us total enjoyment (5).
24 I'm up and about after midnight in Florida (5).
25 Initially all public sessions end in recess (4).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AT LAST YOU CAN BE BETTER INFORMED ABOUT OUR SKIING HOLIDAYS!

We at John Morgan Travel are delighted to welcome back our old friends "The Times" and their faithful readers and remind them of our wonderful skiing holidays available in Europe's top resorts.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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and The Times—

Together we promote property.

WELCOME BACK.

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WELCOME BACK

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TEL. 01-491 2768

Drake Personnel welcomes back

THE TIMES

For the

TOP JOBS

Look for our ads in the paper next week

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

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Welcome back Personal Column, welcome back 25 Years Ago, welcome back fourth leader, welcome back indefatigable Reconditioned Piano Specialist Mrs Gordon with her 10,000 sq. ft. selection of Bechsteins, Steinways, Bluthners, Bosendorfers, Broadwoods etc.

on 01-328 4000.

('Oh Gawd, not her again . . .')

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and offers a wide selection of interesting jobs including:—Social Secretary, / Chairman's Secretary-P.A., M.P.'s, Reception, Marketing, Charities, etc., for job seekers from 18 to 50. See our advertisements in La Creme de la Creme and Tempting Times.

Telephone Mrs Byzantine 01-222 5091

NORMA SKEMP
Personnel Services Ltd
14 Broadway, S.W.1

ACTION RESEARCH FOR THE CRIPPLED CHILDREN

If you want to help vital research to ensure that fewer children are handicapped as we enter the 1980's, please send your donations to:
The Hon. Treasurer (PAC 1)
The National Fund for Research into Crippling Diseases.
Vincent House, Springfield Road,
Horsham, W. Sussex, RH12 2PN.

LIPMANS WELCOME YOU BACK

Dinner suits, black jackets and striped trousers. Wedding Morning suits. Surplus to Hire Department. For sale from £30.

LIPMANS OF CHARING CROSS HIRE DEPT.
22 Charing Cross Rd. W.C.2.
(Nr Leicester Sq. Tube Stn.)
01-240 2310

CAMP AMERICA WELCOMES BACK THE TIMES

We are still offering students and teachers over 18 a job for 9 weeks in an American summer camp teaching sports, arts and crafts. FREE return flight. FREE board pocket money and 2 weeks free time. Write NOW to CAMP AMERICA, Dept A1, 37 Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7, or call 01-589 3223.

JOHNSTON PYCRAFT & FARRAR

152 Fulham Rd. SW10
01-370 4329
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It's a great pleasure to talk to you again in the way that we enjoy.
We offer a specialised letting and management service mainly to Co's and businessmen and their families in the central and southern London areas.

ECONAIR INTERNATIONAL warmly welcomes back The Times.—2 Albion Bldgs., Aldersgate St., E.C.1. Tel 01-606 7968.

A DRINKING PROBLEM? If you drink too much, too often and this threatens your home, job, or occupation, then for confidential assistance on an outpatient basis phone The Conservation of Man Power Unit. 01-626 3149 and ask for The Adviser.

TIMES CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING WORKS

HOW TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED ADVERT

Unfortunately, due to severe staff shortages, we are unable at present to offer our normal telephone sales service.

Until further notice, to place an advertisement please write it and post it to:—

The Times
Classified Advertising
New Printing House Square,
200 Grays Inn Road,
London WC1X 8EZ

For any further classified information, please

RING 01-837 3311

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GOOD TIMES ARE HERE AGAIN

A warm welcome back offered by

BERNARD THORPE & PARTNERS

1 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.

SAVILLS WELCOMES THE TIMES BACK

into circulation, and wishes them a prosperous future.

CENTACOM STAFF
(RECRUITMENT AGENCY)

The Regent Street (Executive Division) and Kensington and Strand, Legal Division branches welcomes back "The Times" and its readers.

Centacom Advertisements for top jobs will continue to appear under "La Creme de la Creme", "Secretarial Appointments" and "Tempting Times".

JANE CROSWAITE RECRUITMENT

Welcome back—we're still here—finding top posts for Executive Secretary/PA's, advising graduates and college leavers on their first career steps, recruiting administrative and information personnel, in the salary range of £4,000-£9,000. Our Temporary Department needs more experienced, intelligent secretaries and typists. Now you have remembered where we are please call us on

581 2977

24 Beauchamp Place, SW3
Knightsbridge tube 5 min.

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AND PROSPERITY WITH JOANNA VIGORS LTD

57 Chipstead St, London, SW6
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We specialise in property in London and the south of Spain for the sale and acquisition of luxury flats and houses, we offer the best possible service.

HAVE YOU MISSED US?

H. Lane & Son, Pianos, new and reconditioned. Agents for leading makes of British pianos, including famous Broadwood piano, 250 years of production. Reconditioned pianos by Steinway, Bechstein, *Bluthner*.

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326 BRIGHTON ROAD,
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01-688 3513
Part exchange welcomed

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Look forward to seeing you

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And we would like to remind everyone about our superb Italian and French Villa holidays for summer, 1980.

BELLAGLEN LTD.
861 Green Lanes, London N21
01-360 7234
(ATOL 893B AITO)

HUNTER AND CO
55 Sidmouth Street,
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837 7365

Specialists in furnished houses and flats, all areas in Central London.
Absence makes the heart grow fonder.
01-584 3285

WHERE THERE'S A WILL . . . there's a way to help the blind. The Royal London Society for the Blind needs a legacy from you to help the blind lead active and useful lives. Further information from Hon. Sec. 107GL, Salusbury Road, London NW6 6RH (Regd. Nat. Assistance Act 1948 and Charities Act 1960).

ARE THERE any readers who could give us some idea as to the whereabouts of the photographic collection belonging to the late Lotte Meitner-Graf who had her studio in Bond Street. If there is anyone who could help please contact Maggie Colbeck, Harrow House Editions Ltd, 7a Langley St., WC2. Tel. 01-836 6072.

NORTH YORKSHIRE is where presence makes the heart grow fondest.

NOT YET THE TIMES, spoof of the year, welcomes the return of the real thing. NYTT, now a collector's item, is still available at 95p UK, £1.00 Europe, £1.15 elsewhere. Cheque or postal order to Stopeshill Ltd., 24 Petersham Place, London, S.W.7.

BONHAMS, the Auctioneers and Valuers, of Montpelier Street, Knightsbridge, suggest you keep this historic edition. Instruct your grandchildren to bring it to us in 50 years time for a valuation. We are confident its value will far exceed 15p!

In the year since "The Times" has been away, the state of mental health in this country has worsened. And MIND's need for your help has deepened. Please help us do more for the mentally sick and handicapped.
The National Association for Mental Health.
22 Harley Street, London WIN 2ED.
MIND Registered charity 219830.

HAPPY TIMES

This happy Contributor welcomes the return of the great Times and it's happy readers.
We look forward to introducing you to one of our many top permanent and temporary jobs and celebrating together over coffee!!
Happy Times are here again!

JOYCE GUINESS BUREAU
21 Brompton Arcade
Brompton Road
Knightsbridge, S.W.3
01 589 8807/0010

THE recruitment consultants

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCOOP!

Prime Appointments are glad The Times are with us again. The opportunities we have are vast and varied, as Times readers will see. For early news on these scoops, why not ring:

637 9922

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While The Times has been away so have some of us. Members of our staff have visited Travel Agents, Airlines, Academic institutions in Australia, New Zealand and USA to spread the news that Around Town Flats is the agency to visit when looking for a flat in London. If you'd like to take advantage of our hard work call us if you have a good house or flat to let.

Around Town Flats Ltd.,
120 Holland Park Av., W.11

229 9966/0033

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BRITISH DIABETIC ASSOCIATION (Dept T.7)
10 QUEEN ANNE STREET,
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(legal staff)

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some months for your Mortgage or Remortgage you'll be as delighted as we are that The Times is back—and so are we!

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Tel: 01-353 2457/8
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Specialists in Letting and Renting of Central/Suburban Houses/Flats, welcome the return of The Times.

£45-£500 p.w.

Tel: 01-935 0117
any time.

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would like to welcome back "The Times".
We have excellent residential properties for sale and for rent (furnished and unfurnished) in Belgravia, Knightsbridge and Chelsea.
18 Montpelier Mews, SW7

01-352 0113

CHIEF EXECUTIVE FBIM unusual track record, seeks charity top job. See situations wanted.

CAPITAL RADIO welcomes back The Times.

THE BLIND NEED MORE THAN PITY—they need the skilled education and training we can give with your help. Please send a donation today to The Royal London Society for the Blind, 107G Salusbury Road, London N.W.6. (Regd. Nat. Assistance Act 1948 and Charities Act 1960).

JUDITH Maria Alexandra McGowan, born October 19, 1979, to Marian and Michael McGowan, sends greetings to the Times Management and is pleased to know that she can grow up reading a great newspaper.

TED JOSLIN'S Journalism slays Spurs (Superstars).

FAT BAZ to sign for major record company after standing ovation at Cheshunt?

THE ASHBROOKE-PEMBLETON-FFRENCH'S are not amused.

JOIN A CONTACT GROUP of volunteers, taking out elderly housebound people. Contact needs drivers with cars one Sunday afternoon a month. 01-240 0630.

JAYGAR CAREERS welcome back The Times. Our advertisements are back to daily on La Creme de la Creme. Jaygar Careers Ltd, 55a Sloane Square, SW1, 730 8148 (Recruitment Consultants).

FLATLAND, 69 Buckingham Palace Road, SW1, 828 8251. Short/long let. Centrally located luxury flats in the best areas. £40-£400. We welcome back The Times.

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still one of the market leaders for European flights welcomes back THE TIMES and all its readers. Our telephone number is still

01-636 7317

MIDAS
Walmar House
296 Regent Street, W.1
ATOL 583B

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BUDGET HOLIDAYS SUMMER '80

With everything rapidly rising in price how will you afford that holiday in the sun next year?—By booking DIRECT with Budget Holidays and saving money: GREECE GREEK ISLANDS CORFU CRETE RHODES CYPRUS MALTA SPAIN and MAJORCA . . FROM £84.

Early booking, group and family discounts will save you even more. For a really large comprehensive range of Villa and Hotel holidays flying from Gatwick, Luton, Manchester and Glasgow, write or phone for our brochure now.

55 Westbourne Grove, London W2.
Tel: 01-221 7171
Manchester 061-236 7401 Birmingham 021-632 6591
Glasgow 041-221 7895
ATOL 890B

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME BACK TO THE TIMES

We're looking forward to providing the very best service and widest possible choice to both our old and new applicants and clients again.

499 2921

ELIZABETH HUNT RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Do not read unless . . . you need us. Our aim is to unite landlords and tenants in a harmonious business relationship.

So whether you have a property to let—or your company/embassy requires a "home from home" for one of its executives—call us—we will be happy to help you. (We deal with properties from £70 pw-£1,000 pw in the central London area).

PLAZA ESTATES
01-262 3087

P.S. Welcome back!

Welcome Back From Greek Islands Club

PAXOS & CORFU

Villas on the sea with privacy, boats and maid. 1980 colour brochure now available from:

Villa Centre Holidays

66 HIGH STREET,
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SURREY KT12 1BU
Tel.: Walton-on-Thames 20477 (24 hrs). ABTA

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Our Furnished Department welcomes back The Times. One of the Best Mediums for some of the Best Furnished Properties: Ring Elizabeth De La Rue with your requirements.

01-493 3993/01-409 0066

Bee Professional Staff

who are the specialist consultants to the legal profession, offer a nationwide confidential service to employers and employees, at all levels, from Partners to Legal Executives.

Please phone 0273 202828

WELCOME BACK
From the Legal Dept. of Bee Professional Staff.

BOYD & BOYD
&
HEYCOCK & CO.

specialists in Residential Sales & Furnished Lettings in and around the London area wish The Times continued success and prosperity.

Res. Sales: 01-584 8893
Furn. Lets: 01-584 6863

CHURCH BROS. & PARTNERS

Welcome peace in our Times and assure landlords that our normal service continues beyond the interval.
Diplomats and executives seek quality furnished flats and houses in all London areas. Details please.

Tel. 439 0589/7953

HAPPINESS IS . . .

the return of The Times

MONICA GROVE RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
29-30 St. James's St., London, S.W.7

839 6542

WELCOME BACK

We will again be appearing regularly in the FOR SALE columns.
Holley, Hextall & Assoc. importers and suppliers of reclaimed stone including old York flagstones, cobble setts, old brick, etc.

Tel.:
(Wilts) 024-973 482

LOWENBRAU. The better lager for the better informed people, welcomes back The Times.

TRAVELAIR welcomes back The Times and all its staff. Travelair Intercontinental Low Cost Travel. 01-439 7505 (ATOL 109BD).

THE MINISTRY of Christian information, Kensington, Oxford. Free leaflets on Christian teaching. No follow-up unless requested.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS hereby gives notice that it intends to publish in a work by Desmond King-Hele entitled "Letters of Erasmus Darwin" various letters by Jonas Dryander and Joseph Banks, the originals of which are deposited in the British Museum (Natural History).

THE CHEST, HEART AND STROKE ASSOCIATION

works for the prevention of ASTHMA, CHRONIC BRONCHITIS, ANGINA, CORONARY THROMBOSIS, HYPERTENSION and STROKE and helps those who suffer from these illnesses.

Help us by sending a donation and by supporting our Christmas Appeal. We offer an attractive selection of Cards and Gifts.

Write or telephone for Brochure or buy direct (9.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. Monday-Friday) from: The Chest, Heart and Stroke Association (T), Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1. Tel: 01-387 3012.

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About 1,000 people will die today from heart disease

More in fact than will die from all other illnesses put together. Research sponsored by us has already saved countless lives. Please help us save more with an "in memoriam" gift, donation or legacy.

BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION
57/6A Gloucester Place, London, W1H 4DH

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IF YOU'RE A SECRETARY + +

and you're looking for that "Creme de la Creme job" now that The Times is back you will see us

SECRETARIES PLUS
146 Bishopsgate, E.C.2.
TEL.: 01-377 8600

every week in the La Creme de la creme recruitment columns.

PALACE PROPERTIES
41 Gloucester Place, W1

WELCOMES BACK THE TIMES AND ITS READERS

Looking for a flat/house to rent? We have a wide selection of luxury serviced flats from £150 to £650 p.w. in central London. You can see our advertisements in "The Times" rental columns every day. For a personal service and a flat of your choice, why not call us NOW.

486 8926

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Keep Looking For

NEW HORIZONS

Recruitment Consultants

Permanent and Temporary Positions in West End and City

TELEPHONE 01-584 4223
49 BROMPTON RD,
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THAT AGENCY

Welcomes back The Times, and looks forward to meeting the creme de la creme of Secretaries through your column.

Open until 7 every Thursday.
165 Kensington High Street.

01-937 4336

POLYGLOT AGENCY

synonymous with

LANGUAGE SECRETARIES

over 30 years, welcomes back The Times and its readers. Why not call in to discuss your new career.

BANK CHAMBERS,
214 Bishopsgate, E.C.2.
01-247 5242

CAREER ANALYSTS

The leading guidance organisation in the country giving advice on Career, Educational planning, welcomes back The Times.
We have been advertising with you regularly for 15 years and will continue to support you in the future.

CAREER ANALYSTS, LONDON, W.1.

THERE'S NOTHING QUITE LIKE OLD TIMES

WELCOME BACK TO THE NEW TIMES

BENNETT TYPEWRITERS LTD OF BOURNEMOUTH AND SOUTHAMPTON

CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN

—where more of your money goes on research. The campaign has one of the lowest expense-to-income ratios of any charity, and is the largest supporter in the UK of research into all forms of cancer. Please help—with a legacy, donation or gift "In Memoriam".
Cancer Research Campaign,
Dept. TX2,
2 Carlton House Terrace,
London, SW1Y 5AR

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOUNG CHELSEA BRIDGE School, 18-35 age group. 373 1665.

WINE AND DINE

YASMINE, I love you. Now "The Times" is back can't WE get together again? Peter.

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INSTANT FLATS, Chelsea. Luxury serviced. Mr Page 373 3433.

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